

BAY AREA REPORTER

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'Harvey Milk' Wins First Gay Oscar

In Hollywood, Hopeful 200 At Cast Party

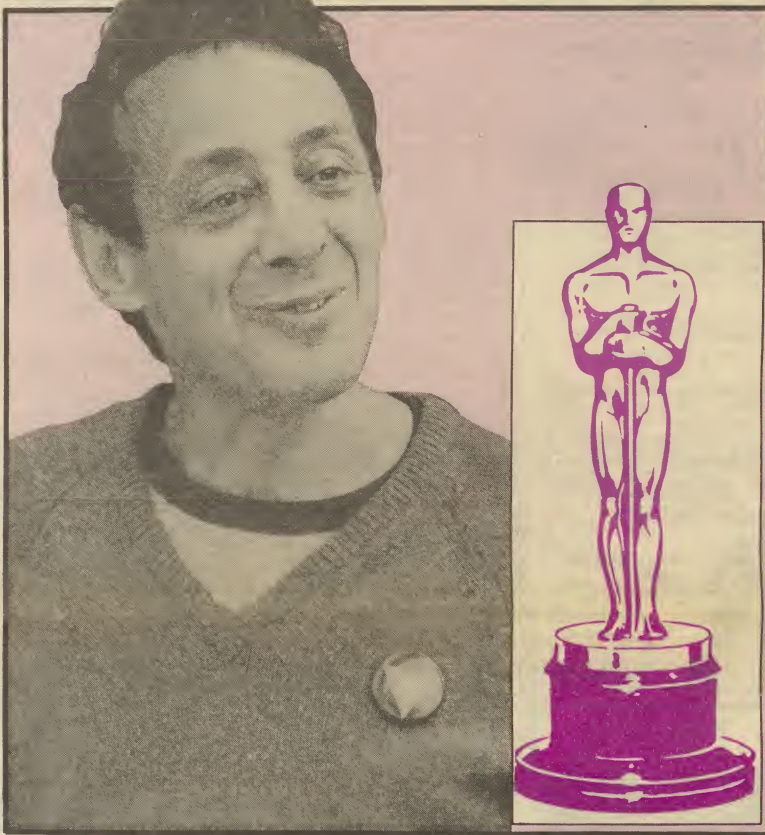
by George Mendenhall

HOLLYWOOD—"I hope this is not my only Hollywood entrance this week," quipped Richard Schmiechen. Robert Epstein threatened to sneak back stage and add a Barbie Doll outfit to the trophy so he would "get the first drag Oscar." The producer and director of *The Times of Harvey Milk*, nominated for Best Documentary Feature, were having a good time at the pre-Academy Awards fundraiser at the Variety Arts Theatre here. Two hundred attended a special screening of the film.

Mayor Valerie Terrigno could not attend as she was trying to solve a street gas leak fire in West Hollywood, but three celebrities did attend: Marcia Wallace, formerly of the Bob Newhart Show; Zelda Rubinstein, who played the psychic in *Poltergeist*, and Robert Walden, formerly of Lou Grant and now star of Showtime's *Brothers*.

Wallace said the "Milk" film was great and Milk himself "so life-affirming, such a joyful person." Rubinstein, an AIDS health worker, called the film

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(Photo: Rink)

On Castro, Tears Mix With Cheers

by Allen White

At 6:33 p.m., Pacific Standard Time, an audience estimated at one billion people heard that *The Times of Harvey Milk* had won the Academy Award as "Best Documentary Feature." People in 77 countries joined Gay men and Lesbians around the world last Monday night to watch Rob Epstein and Richard Schmiechen run to the stage and accept the 8½ pound gold-plated statuette.

Harvey Milk was a person with roots in the entertainment business, and the story of his life received the highest acclamation that can be made by the motion picture industry. The award was to a film, yet there is no question the film was a personal triumph to San Francisco's—possibly the world's—most dynamic contemporary spokesperson for Gay rights.

In San Francisco's Castro district the mood was jubilant and highly emotional. Many people in bars and at private parties openly cried—while at the same time screaming with delight.

On 17th Street, a dozen people joined Scott Smith, Milk's lover, to watch the show. "My heart was beating right out of

(Continued on page 16)

2 Gays Clubbed In Their Own Home

Trio of Attackers Break In, Shout Anti-Gay Hate Slogans

Three club-wielding attackers broke into the home of two Gay men in the Hayes Valley neighborhood, attacked both of them and shouted anti-Gay epithets. The assaults occurred Feb. 27, and resulted in severe injuries to one of the two Gay men.

There are as yet no suspects in the case, though police are continuing an investigation. Randy Schell, client advocate for Community United Against Violence, provided the following account of the attack.

I've known David for a long time. I never knew his name, just his face and of course, his dogs which he took out for walks when the weather permitted. I live on Fell Street at Laguna, so whenever I walked home at night I would look forward to seeing David and his dogs.

He always said "hello" or "how are you doing." His friendly smile and handsome face were just what the doctor ordered after a difficult or not so difficult day.

RANDY SCHELL

On Feb. 28, I found out the name behind the handsome face. Only, on Feb. 28, there wasn't a very friendly smile—and the face was contorted and lacerated. His eyes were swollen shut, stitches criss-crossed here and there and he couldn't move without experiencing excruciating pain. Instead of smiling, he

(Continued on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

SUPREME COURT rejects anti-Gay law in Oklahoma. But the vote is a hair-splitting—and hair-raising—tie. Ray O'Loughlin is court reporter on page 2.

QUARANTINE GAYS—That's the order in Britain from the health minister, as Dion Sanders reports on page 10.

ON THE BLOCK. Pride Center was foreclosed last week as the city rejected Pride's proposed bailout. The center will go to the highest bidder. Meanwhile, city auditors continue their probe. Charles Linebarger chronicles the fall of Pride on page 11.

NEW EVIDENCE on poppers is nothing to sniff at. Ray O'Loughlin's nose for news pokes into the issues on page 13.

5 Men, Weapons Nabbed in Castro

Cops Notice 'Suspicious' Car; Quick Work Prevents a Disaster

by Allen White

Five heavily armed young men were apprehended the night of Friday, March 22 near the Castro Theatre. Police say the arrest may have prevented what looked like a hunting expedition to attack Gays. The five were armed with a BB rifle, a pellet pistol, two knives, and a hammer customized to make it especially effective in skull-bashing.

"We'll never know who didn't get hit in the head with a hammer," said San Francisco Police Lieutenant Al Casciato. Casciato said that police officers Jennifer Thompson and Philip Lee noticed a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot adjacent to the Castro Theatre just after Midnight on Friday night, March 22. They took their patrol car and blocked the small alley leading into the lot.

Inside the parked car were five young men from out of town, aged 14 and 15. Checking out the car the officers found clubs, knives and BB guns. The officers were told the owner of the car was not there but down the street.

Checking on Castro Street, they found David Oldham, 20,

of Pleasant Hill. He was stalking the street with a blunt tipped hammer in his belt.

"There is no question in my mind," said Lt. Casciato, "that these guys were looking for trouble. You don't drive around and park in a secluded area in the middle of the night to have

(Continued on page 3)

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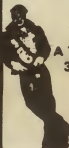
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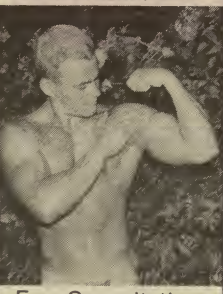


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Men Attacked in Own Home

(Continued from page 1)

was crying and he didn't look very well at all.

The night before, David and his lover came back to their apartment late at night. Ron, his lover, went through the apartment door, down the long hallway, past the bathroom and into the kitchen. David went around the corner and sat down in the living room. Suddenly, without warning, the front door smashed open and hit the wall.

David looked up and three men armed with three-foot-long clubs stormed into the room. As he began to arise from his chair, the clubs came down on his head. Time after time they struck violently at his head and body.

He slowly began collapsing to the floor as his knees buckled. The three men continued to strike him as they screamed "motherfuckers."

Only seconds had passed and Ron was already responding to the strange sounding whacks and the screams for help in the living room. He bolted to his feet and ran through the kitchen and reached as far as the bathroom door in the hallway.

Ron didn't get any closer to David than this. One of the three men lunged through the doorway, club lifted above his head, and swung it violently downward and connected with Ron's head. Up again, the club was lifted ... down again to the head. "Scream all you want motherfucker queer—scream all you want till I finish you off." And it came down on his head again and again.

David and Ron are not sure what caused the three men with their clubs to flee. More than likely it was the screams; the attackers got worried that the entire apartment building may have heard the cries for help.

The police report was graphic. Officer McKenna stated that David's "face was totally covered with blood

and he had a cut lip. His face was very swollen." Later in the same report he commented about Ron, "I observed victim #2 also to be covered with blood and had numerous cuts on the front, top, both sides and the back of his head."

"The walls of the apartment, along with the floor, were covered with blood ... the three suspects were in his apartment for about five minutes."

David was staying at a friend's apartment when I first made contact with him the following day. He opened his door in response to my knocking and looked at me. "Oh my God, it's you," he said. He recognized me as his neighbor.

I sat down with David, I held tightly to his hand, and he wept. David didn't weep so much for himself as he did for Ron. "My beautiful Ron. They tried to kill him ... they tried to kill us." I just held his hand tightly. Five years of experience told me to hold his hand and it's just fine if I cry with him.

Later, it was terribly important for David to show me his apartment. I was nervous about it and David was scared. He began to unlock the front door when I noticed a lot of blood that had dried and apparently dripped down from the door handle. He managed to open it and turned on the light revealing the long hallway.

Blood was everywhere. It was on the walls, on the floor and in places that were incomprehensible.

We walked down the hallway and into the kitchen. It was in shambles. The table was strewn with objects and on top of the toaster lay a shirt—Ron's shirt, now hardened by dried blood.

We went back through the hall again and into the living room. More of the same, pastels mixing with dark hues of red. I really needed to get out of that apartment so both of us went into the hallway to the door.

That's when I saw it. On the wall hung a huge white banner with red letters. It was a banner for the Gay marching band, the kind you and I have seen in the parades and pictures. Hand prints soiled the white cloth—dark red from hands supporting bodies trying to get out of the way of men with clubs. Spots here and there soiled the white banner—the blood of life creating a sort of weird Rorschach design.

We closed the door to the apartment and David walked me down the stairs and outside. A friend was taking him to San Francisco General Hospital for a check-up. It was sunny that day and I walked down the street in its warmth.

I thought about that banner on the wall and what I had witnessed. I think the next time I see Ron and David on the street with their dogs, I'll have a lot more to say than "hi" or "I'm fine, how are you?"

I'd like to carry that banner down Market Street with the two of them during the parade. I'd like to carry that banner just as it is.

R. Schell

Police could offer only general descriptions of the suspects. One was described as a Black male, approximately 25 years old, 6 feet tall and 180 pounds and of muscular build, with hair styled in a "corn row" fashion. The other two suspects were both described as Black males in their early 20s, between 5 feet, 10 inches and 6 feet tall.

The attack was similar to an earlier one which occurred Jan. 11 at Fulton and Broderick Streets, 11 blocks away. In that case, a gang of as many as 30 young Black men chased a Gay man to his door. Five of the assailants then forced their way into the house and assaulted the Gay man with their fists. They were not believed to have been carrying weapons.

Supreme Court Strikes Down Anti-Gay Oklahoma Law

But Vote Is a Hair-Splitting 4-4; Ballot Is Secret

by Ray O'Loughlin

The U.S. Supreme court on Tuesday, Mar. 26 overturned an Oklahoma law prohibiting Gay and Lesbian teachers from speaking about homosexuality in or out of the classroom.

In a 4-4 vote, the court upheld the ruling by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which had struck down the law last year. In cases of tie votes, lower court rulings are automatically upheld.

Attorney Leonard Graff of San Francisco-based National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA), who directed the suit, *NGTF v. The Board of Education of Oklahoma City*, hailed the action as "extremely gratifying."

"It truly is a landmark victory for the Gay and Lesbian community because we have an affirmation, regardless of the vote," said Graff. "There has been some debate among legal scholars on the effect of such an affirmation. But they didn't reverse the Circuit Court and they didn't send the case back to be heard over again. This is a legal precedent and has more effect than some people have said."

One effect, said Graff, was that attorneys and judges will be able to use the Oklahoma case in future cases. "We'll be able to cite the opinion of the 10th Cir-

cuit court. The Supreme Court's action ratifies the legal reasoning of the Appeals court."

Although the Supreme Court issued no further opinion of its own and will not publicly reveal how the justices voted, Graff said he was encouraged by the vote.

He described Justice Lewis F. Powell, who did not vote because he had not heard earlier arguments in the case, as a "moderate centrist who would be hard to predict" in future cases. According to Graff, Justices Thurgood Marshall and William Brennan, "the die hard liberals on the court," probably voted pro-Gay. But, added Graff, "We convinced at least two other judges of the merits of our case."

The Oklahoma law was enacted in 1978 as a result of Anita Bryant's anti-Gay campaign in

Florida. Because no teacher in Oklahoma would challenge the law for fear of losing a job and a career, National Gay Task Force (NGTF) agreed to be named as plaintiff on behalf of its Oklahoma members. NGRA argued that the law violated First Amendment rights to free speech.

In its ruling last year, the federal appeals court cited past Supreme Court rulings which upheld the right to advocate illegal conduct as long as such advocacy does not actually incite illegal behavior. Homosexual acts are illegal in Oklahoma and proponents of the measure argued that any discussion of homosexuality would "risk" school children being influenced to engage in prohibited sexual acts.

Oklahoma authorities may reintroduce the law in the state legislature in a more specific form.

Alert Cops Prevent a Disaster

(Continued from page 1)

a good time. "We can't measure how much crime was stopped by the work of these police officers."

Casciato said, "We want to send a clear signal out that these out-of-town punks who come to San Francisco to cause trouble are not welcome."

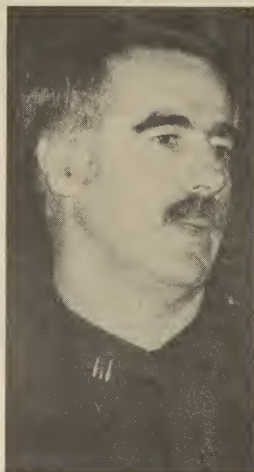
Last year on Polk Street, another group of out-of-town teenagers attacked a Gay Man, John O'Connell, on Polk Street near California. He died from his injuries. Four Vallejo men, aged from 19 to 22, are awaiting trial in his murder and in the beating of three other men that night.

The suspected Gay bashers who were arrested Friday night on Castro Street were later picked up by their parents. Officers at Mission Station said many of the parents were shocked to learn of the activity of their sons. Police did not release the names of the juveniles.

David Oldham was booked for contributing to the delinquency of a minor and carrying a concealed weapon, which is a felony. According to police, Oldham said he and his young friends came to San Francisco with a hammerhead club, a pellet pistol, an air rifle, two butcher knives with four and six inch blades to "just drive around."

The tactics of the two officers are representative of changes which have taken place in the operation of Mission Station since Captain Vic Macia took charge two years ago.

The station until that time was continually the target of complaints from citizens for harassment and brutality. Randy Schell, client advocate for the Community United Against



Vic Macia (Photo: Rink)

Violence, said there have been less than ten complaints lodged against Mission Station officers since Macia took command.

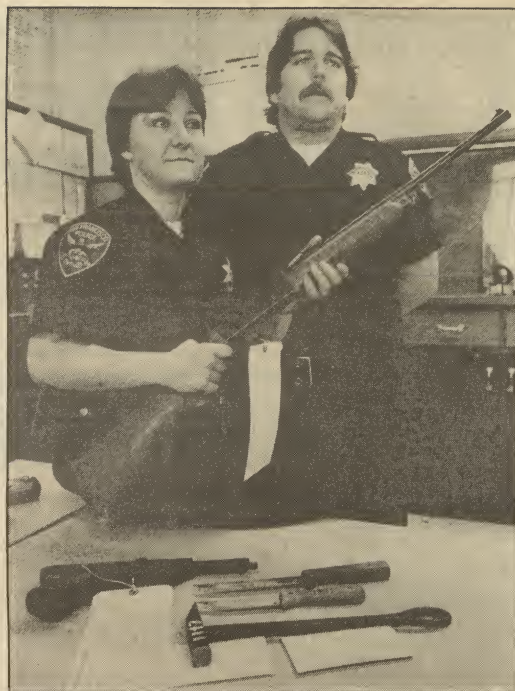
This sharp contrast is the basis for a \$1.6 million suit filed in U.S. District Court on behalf

of five Hispanic residents in the Mission District against top police officials of the San Francisco Police Department. The lawsuit states Mission Station officers engaged in a pattern of "excessive force against citizens" prior to Macia being named captain in 1983.

Named in the suit are Police Chief Con Murphy, Deputy Chief Richard Trueb, Deputy Chief George Eimil and Captain Don Taylor. Taylor was Captain at Mission Station when most of the incidents named in the suit took place. Current Mission Station Captain, Vic Macia, is not named in the lawsuit.

Prior to Macia's taking command of the station it was not unusual to learn of complaints against Mission Station officers. In 1982, the situation became so intense that leaders from the Hispanic community and the Gay community joined together to picket Mission Station and hold public meetings condemning the police. That type of conflict has become virtually nonexistent in the last two years. ■

A. White



Captured Cache of weapons from Castro Street is displayed by officers Jennifer Thompson and Philip Lee. (Photo: San Francisco Examiner, Fran Ortiz. Reprinted by permission.)

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Black Coalition Organizing in South

The National Coalition of Black Gays (NCBG) received a \$1,500 grant from the Fund For Southern Communities to conduct a two-day workshop to benefit Black Lesbians and Gays in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

According to NCBG's executive director, Gil Gerald, the objective of the two-day workshop is to develop organizing strategies for the "empowerment" of the Black Lesbian and Gay community in the tri-state region. "We hope to facilitate the development of a locally developed plan to create community based organizations that respond to the particular political and social needs of Black Lesbians and Gays," said Gerald.

NCBG is the only national Lesbian/Gay political, educational and service organization whose focus is to promote the healthy development of the Black Lesbian and Gay community through programs for public education and programs for organizing the Black Lesbian and Gay community on the local and national level. For more information call (202) 737-5276, or write to NCBG, P.O. Box 2490, Washington, DC 20013. ■

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Gov't Officials Discussed Quarantine Of Gays, Says Magazine Report

'Mother Jones' Quotes Top Health Officer; Exposes Anti-Gay Bigotry in Anti-AIDS Efforts

Officials of the Reagan Administration have discussed a quarantine of Gays and the firing of Gay employees from schools and hospitals as a response to the AIDS epidemic. That's the statement made by Dr. Edward Brandt, former director of the federal Public Health Service, as quoted in the current (April) issue of *Mother Jones* magazine.

The magazine has published an extensive investigation of federal responses to the epidemic. It is authored in part by long-time Gay journalist Larry Bush, recently hired as an aide to State Assembly Member Art Agnos (D-San Francisco).

AIDS has stricken 10,000 Americans, and it is estimated that 40,000 more Americans will fall victim to the disease in the next two years. Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler has labeled the epidemic "the federal government's Number 1 health priority."

But the *Mother Jones* article, to be published in the magazine's April issue, concludes that the federal government's response has been inadequate and colored by homophobia. That view is echoed by a number of federal officials and AIDS researchers quoted in the article.

The *Mother Jones* article, written by David Talbot and Larry Bush, reports that:

• Dr. David Sundwall, the key health advisor to Senator Orrin Hatch's Labor and Human Resources Committee, told the magazine that he and Hatch took pains to make sure that members of the committee did not get their hands on a 1982 emergency AIDS funding bill because of the intensely homophobic make-up of the committee. Sundwall says that he and

Hatch "finessed it" so that the proposal bypassed the committee and went directly to the Senate floor "in the quiet of the night."

"I've been privy to memos that came from some of their offices," Sundwall told *Mother Jones*. "[and] I can tell you the most blatant kind of homophobia possible is indicated in these memos. Very judgmental, very negative statements... [AIDS is] probably God's wrath and so be it."

• According to Dr. Edward Brandt, former health and human services assistant secretary, administration officials seriously discussed such extreme measures as a quarantine and mass firings of gays and other high-risk individuals from schools and hospitals. "There was concern that since we didn't know for sure what the limitations of transmissibility were, we should protect against the worst case," the former head of the federal AIDS efforts told *Mother Jones*.

• An official at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) criticized the government's failure to

offer private industry an economic incentive for developing an AIDS vaccine, as was done in the case of swine flu. Why wasn't this done? "Number one," said the official, "this administration doesn't care about preventive medicine. And number two, a vaccine would primarily benefit the Gay population."

• Dr. Samuel Broder, an AIDS researcher at the National Cancer Institute, told the magazine it is particularly disturbing to see Dr. Robert Gallo's lab without sufficient resources.

"Gallo's group isolated the three known human retroviruses—one being the AIDS virus," said Broder. "They've proven they can do the job. The logical thing is to keep that group well deployed and morale high. I mean if Patton is taking 30 miles a day in the south of France, the thing to do is send him more gasoline."

• San Francisco AIDS physician Marcus Conant told the magazine he approached closeted Gay men in the Reagan administration to win their support for increased AIDS funding,

only to be rebuffed. "They were terrified that their own sexual orientation would be discovered," says Conant. "I was told by these officials, 'Doctor, you're a very effective leader—why don't you go persuade the Gay community to stop having sex.'"

• AIDS research continues to be beset with scientific rivalries and professional backbiting. According to University of California researcher Jay Levy, whose group recently discovered the genetic blueprint that carries the code for the AIDS virus, the "East Coast [medical research] establishment" discriminated against California AIDS researchers. "They just don't want the competition," says Levy. He and other California researchers were overlooked when the federal government extended invitations to the international AIDS conference to be held in Atlanta this April.

This January, the administration announced that it was taking advantage of a bureaucratic loophole to slash federal support for biomedical research far below the level approved by Congress. This month, Reagan submitted a 1986 AIDS budget request for \$10 million less than what has been allocated for fiscal 1985.

Dr. Allan Goldstein, a leading authority on the immune system and chair of the biochemistry department at George Washington University Medical School, sums up the federal response to AIDS as follows: "The declaration that AIDS is the nation's top health priority has still not been translated to the troops in the lab. This is a heck of a way to fight a war—we'll all be dead before we have the answers."

From a press release provided by *Mother Jones* magazine.

AIDS Foundation Finds New Home

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation announced today that a new facility has been located and a lease signed which will make it possible for the foundation to continue services in an uninterrupted fashion, given the loss of their lease as of April 1, at 54 Tenth Street.

The AIDS Foundation will relocate, as of Monday April 1, to The Fog Building, 333 Valencia Street, 4th Floor, in San Francisco. The Fog Building is located at Valencia and 14th Streets.

The Foundation's phone numbers remain the same:

- Business Number (415) 864-4376
- Hotline Number in San Francisco (415) 863-AIDS
- Toll-free Hotline Number in N. Calif. (800) FOR-AIDS
- TTY line for the hearing impaired (415) 864-6606

Some phone service interruption may be experienced over the next week while the phone system is being transferred to the new location, however, it is hoped that inconvenience will be minimized.



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VIEWPOINT

Good Cops, Bad Cops

Most cops do a good job most of the time. Officers Jennifer Thompson and Philip Lee of the Mission Station are examples of two cops doing a good job. Theirs was no hair-raising act of bravado. Rather, by being alert and knowing their beat, they prevented what certainly would have been a disaster. In so doing, they demonstrated the most difficult and most important aspect of law enforcement: Doing the routine things well.

Thompson and Lee were working the beat at midnight Friday March 22 when they noticed a suspicious-looking car parked in the lot behind the Castro Theatre. Why was the car suspicious? It could have been one of a hundred things—but things observable only by the cop who knew the beat and was paying attention.

The two cops found five teenagers and a horrifying cache of weapons. Had Officers Thompson and Lee not intervened, our front page this week would may well have been stained with the bloody headlines of a Castro massacre.

There's another message in this episode: the importance of competent middle management in the Police Department. The captain of Mission Station, Vic Macia, has made great strides in improving street patrol work, such as that performed by Thompson and Lee. Macia's predecessor allowed bigoted cops to throw their weight around with Gays and Hispanics. Macia has shown he will not tolerate such effrontery, and has focused his station's resources on the basics. It has paid off in a safer life for residents of the Mission and Castro.

If and when Con Murphy sets sail on his "fishing boat" for wider horizons, Mayor Dianne Feinstein need look no further than Vic Macia as one well-qualified replacement.

★ ★ ★

Two more Mission Station cops were in the news recently. Scott Quinn was convicted, and his partner Niall Philpott pleaded guilty, to attacking two Gay men in similar but separate instances. Quinn professed innocence right up to the verdict. His sworn testimony was directly contradicted by his own police cruiser radio. The radio "overheard" Quinn saying, "I'm going to kick his ass" before one of the attacks. The remark was automatically tape-recorded.

Quinn is to be sentenced April 12. Philpott on April 22. There is concern at the Hall of Justice that Superior Court Judge Claude Perasso will let Quinn and Philpott walk. The story going around is that since this is a "first offense," probation will be sufficient for the officers.

This is not the first time this pair has been in trouble. A check with the Office of Civilian Complaints and the Community United Against Violence bears this out. The picture which emerges is of two cops who abused citizens in a pattern which grew steadily more severe.

Something bigger is at stake. Police brutality is difficult to prove. It is a rare case where surprise evidence such as a radio tape makes the issues clear. In most cases, the cops walk. Here is a clean case, and an extreme one. These cops almost killed one man, and broke the finger of another one, after abducting him from a bus. If these cops don't go to jail, it will send a clear message to the Police Department: You can get away with anything.

Crime deterrence is a factor in sentencing. Should Perasso let Quinn and Philpott off the hook, he will be giving a carte blanche to bad cops to carry on as they please.

Brian Jones

LETTERS

Media Colonies

★ Are we to believe that Richard Locke has been carrying medical texts around in his ditty bag? It seems that "big daddy" has now turned to mothering and wants to lay it on us like a cross between Art Ulene and Miss Manners.

In this steady stream of media colonies, we have Perkins touting the high, and now Locke pitching the low. Between the two, we now have enough dribble to fill anyone's douche bag.

Butts or minds, Mr. Locke seems bent to fuck with something. I'd like to suggest that his freshly shaved body parts may work well as erasers for his next offering. And, if he really needs to explore a new direction, how about a nice silent retirement? It's attractive in an aging film queen.

R. Repinski
San Francisco

Logic of a Ping Pong Ball

★ Your editorial gibberish making the assumption that the blame of someone being beaten in Buena Vista Park should go on the direct shoulders of Dr. Silverman and Shilts for closing down the baths is stupid nonsense. Are you dreaming? Many of us happily recognize these two men as hero's in the Gay community. The alarming new statistics of AIDS is not only gut-sobering, it is nightmarish. If closing down a sex palace for a couple of years can save the life of even one of our brothers, it is a success.

Men that troll the parks late at night are adult men who fully accept the thrill of Russian roulette by means of the health crisis and things that go bump in the night. They are not boy scouts out bird watching just sighing and pining to become helpless victims of crime unaware that their obvious-empty lives are in jeopardy. How can you be so distordedly naive?

Your paper and editorial staff have increasingly been showing the psychotic logic of a ping pong ball. Irresponsible journalism. You attack these men more maliciously and directly and with such political righteousness that you cannot help but end up the paranoid loser. Your "oh woe is me/martyr suffering on the cross" routine is not only passe and ridiculous, but . . . boring.

Mike Hernandez
San Francisco

Playing Cat and Mouse

★ Just because that the baths and sex clubs are, for the most part, closed, is no reason for trying to blame the attack of a Gay man in a city park on Dr. Silverman and Randy Shilts. Gay men have been playing cat and mouse with the law and would be muggers and murderers for years in city parks, alleys and public bathrooms. Who was to blame for attacks before the AIDS issue?

I for one, have never been into the baths, sex clubs, Johns and parks scene. Because I have never been a thrill seeker and believe that if you go looking for trouble, by God you're going to find it some day. Nobody and I mean nobody forced that man into the park at 2 a.m. to go looking for stray dick. He went in on his own accord, knowing the dangers that can be lurking behind every bush. I certainly do not believe that the closing of the baths and sex clubs forced this poor man into the city bushes. Like most park men, he's probably been doing it for years.

I'm sorry of course about the bashing of a human being, but he had no business being in the park at that hour of the morning. In a way we all take chances whenever we meet someone new, regardless if it's a bar, at work or on the street, but you will never find me

in a dark and dangerous park at two in the morning. But if I do find myself in trouble, I only have one person to blame, and that's myself. I really think that you owe Dr. Silverman and Randy Shilts an apology. I was for closing the baths and sex clubs because of all the irresponsible Gay men that there are in this town, so am I also to blame for the attack of this unknown man? Guess again. And since you opposed the closing of baths and sex clubs, I guess that puts you in the clear. An apology, Mr. Jones.

Richard Hillman
San Francisco

Examining the Examiner

The following was sent to the San Francisco Examiner:

★ I'm having trouble discerning the point of Mary Ganz's three-part essay "Living with Dying," particularly in view of the Examiner's introduction: "AIDS is a disease that confounds medicine, threatens to spread in the general population, and poses a challenge to our humanity."

Clearly, then, the Examiner excludes homosexual men from "the general population." Ganz reinforces that view by relating the said AIDS diary of a patient who's been a promiscuous, fast-lane doper, and lived with a drag queen. Obviously not a member of "the general population."

Having established that AIDS victims are not like you and me, Ganz paints a portrait of the boy next door run amok amid the hedonistic lures of San Francisco's Gay scene. Cause and effect, crime and punishment—break the rules, pay the price. Have ten sex partners at the baths, die of AIDS. If you're still doing it, better stop. If you haven't fallen for the lure, better stay in Vermont!

Ganz gives moving insight into the anguish and pain of Jeff King and his friends, God bless them all. She does nothing whatsoever to avoid the AIDS stereotype, to make it clear that not all AIDS victims share Jeff King's lifestyle. By emphasizing that lifestyle, she makes a clear warning, if that's her purpose. But she also fans the flames of bigotry among those (see your Editor's Mailbox, Monday 3/18) who believe that AIDS is God's revenge on sinning homosexuals.

How ironic that you set Gay men apart from "the general population" at the outset of this story, and how sad that neither Ganz nor her editors seem to realize that they're increasing, not helping to meet, this "challenge to our humanity" among those most in need of understanding.

Glenn Lake
San Francisco

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In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

After-hours Libido

★ The segment of "Viewpoint" in which News Editor Brian Jones connects an assault in Buena Vista Park with the closure of some bathhouses—and the actions of Dr. Mervyn Silverman and the reportage of Randy Shilts concerning them—verges on the dictionary definition of libel: "a statement or representation published without just cause and tending to expose another to public contempt."

To imply that Dr. Mervyn Silverman and reporter Randy Shilts, and their views on bathhouse closure, are somehow responsible for the tragic assault on an early morning visitor to Buena Vista Park is both irresponsible and malicious. The unnamed visitor certainly was aware of the dangers of the public parks after dark. Since some private sexual facilities are open at that hour, it has to be assumed that the victim went to the park because he preferred the park, a choice over which Silverman and Shilts certainly had no control.

"Safe Sex" in Buena Vista Park is obviously more safe during the day light than the dark. The bushes at high noon are one thing, the bushes at one-thirty in the morning are another. One goes to the baths or the park of one's own free will. To enter a public park after dark is inviting trouble when there are still places open in this city one may attend if the libido demands late satisfaction.

Tom Youngblood
San Francisco

Bring Insect Repellent

★ In June, 1983 I was pondering some of the routes that an AIDS agent might travel. I then sent letters to some of our community papers in Los Angeles expressing concern about viral transmission routes through parasites and other flying insects. Since then I have not seen much written about this route until I recently spotted a small item in the *B.A.R.*, and so I write to you.

When I visited the clubs and restaurants of San Francisco and Los Angeles, I find that many have mosquitoes, but little is done about eradicating them. As AIDS/STD's could easily be passed through nonhuman elements, I suggest that we extend research to insects as an additional area of investigation.

Fleas, ticks, flies and mosquitos are all known to be historic disease transmitters between humans and other animals. Viral blood diseases are pandemic in the warm climates of insect rich nations. Parasitic bloodsucking insects are going to team again this summer, but we feed them all year long inside our homes and public places. It is frightening that we do so little to break the insect chain of transmission, no matter how safe the sex we practice.

Charles Holloway
Los Angeles

Point of View

★ Norma Edmondson's response to the actions of "Alice" regarding our home and parcel map, should be judged in the light of her actions, not her words.

Although appellant Edmondson claims she is merely pursuing "due process," the facts speak otherwise.

Norma, the non-owner, non-resident of #2 Crown Terrace (her mother's investment property), in her undaunting effort to preserve the building's view (and market value), states her opposition is based on a two-lot limit imposed by City Planning in 1961 which we have violated. Never mind that City Planning has ruled that such a condition does not exist. As a matter of record, the following concur that there is no such condition: the city attorney, the Department of Public Works, the Board of Permit Appeals, the Mayor's Office and Superior Court.

Undeterred by such findings, appellant Edmondson continues to crusade against our home and parcel map. With her supporters, pressure is applied to elected officials, city departments, and the city attorney, until someone, somewhere agrees to call yet another hearing. Just to add a twist to our misery, the appellant always asks for a last minute postponement or change in the rules.

The appellant states she wants us to live in our home. Strange comment, considering that she sued us twice in Superior Court (and lost) to stop construction for such a valid reason as building in the driving rains. Her zeal was equally enthusiastic during the three months of delays and hearings before the Board of Permit Appeals (which eventually affirmed the permit unanimously).

Her letter implies there is no "prejudice" involved, not "Gay," "Black" or Jewish.

Never mind that she excluded Gay neighbors from the neighborhood strategy sessions and the mediating session with us.

Never mind the night in early December, when the appellant, in full public view, pointed at Stephen, and lumbered about like a gorilla, that time-honored and indelicate manner of mimicking blacks. (Such tasteless satire is alive and well in San Francisco.)

Never mind the crank calls and the hate mail.

The appellant's mediating offers are even more instructive as to her motivations. She agreed to cease her opposition and that of her neighbors if we agreed to limit the height on all three parcels to allow her view to be maintained. Never mind that we would have to build substantially below grade.

Last week, in a session with Supervisor Louise

Renne, the appellant and Dotte Crowder's representative requested that we give the "neighborhood" the upper lot as an act of "Christian charity." We rejected that notion, and all agreed to square off before the Board of Supervisors the following Monday.

It came as no surprise two days later that the appellant had asked for a postponement.

In this continuing saga, we have always welcomed fair, "good faith" scrutiny of our approvals. What we object to is selective harassment and the unequal application of laws.

Ronald Katz
Stephen Blackwell
San Francisco

Symphony's Sour Notes

★ In a recent concert program, I was shocked to find Gordon Getty quoted as stating that Shakespeare's sonnets are "faggoty." I wrongly admired the man as being a real San Franciscan—having a certain graciousness, dignity, humanity, and understanding, but who also just happened to be rich. Now we can see that he is merely rich—and poor in spirit. It awes me that a man can have so many advantages and remain so disadvantaged, so mentally handicapped, so unfeeling.

Does Getty also refer to soul music or rhythm and blues as "nigger" music? Does he refer to some of the world's greatest conductors who are Jewish as "kikes"? And would the San Francisco Symphony publish such offensive words? I question the motivation of publishing "faggoty" when the symphony has many Gay people in the orchestra and audience. The symphony and Getty have shown their true homophobic colors.

If Getty just plain doesn't like the sonnets—fine. But who is he to dismiss Shakespeare (who was straight) because Shakespeare recognized love between any two individuals as love? Shakespeare remains timeless in all cultures of the world because he understood all humanity, and that humanity has always included Gay people and always will.

I could say that Getty owes Shakespeare and Gays an apology, but he has done a bigger disservice to himself by owing an apology between himself and God for his superior attitude. This same attitude allowed blacks to remain in slavery, and five million Jews and a half million Gays to die in gas chambers. Alas, the world would truly be more if Rev. Cecil Williams had Getty's money, and Getty were out on the streets learning some hard knocks in accepting "all God's children."

J. Krug
San Francisco

Time for Blessings

★ Church blessings of homosexual relationships have arrived. The Unitarians unanimously approved such a blessing in 1984. Other mainline churches unofficially have blessed homosexual pairs for years. These advances already have saved lives in relation to AIDS by supporting stable relationships.

Now Episcopalians are publicly into the issue. Everyone concerned with this is an invaluable thread in the fabric of the movement. Any voice must be heard. This, and realizing it is not just a local issue, will make everyone the peaceful victor.

Homosexuals were created to serve in at least three crucial ways—object, example, and altruism. Consider: If homosexuality is an answer, what is the question?

First, the homosexual has served as a necessary object relative to which others grow. That is, homosexuals have been one target group giving oppressors opportunity to grow, as oppressors are challenged to overcome prejudice and fear, and show understanding, compassion and faith. The oppressed also have opportunity to grow in this process. Reversely, if no object, no opportunity, and no action.

Second, homosexuals have served as example, in a similar way. An example of little or no family, nor community, nor church, and the example of service in suffering and death in the AIDS crisis.

If AIDS is an answer, what is the question? One question not valid is how can the Creator punish, unless children with disease are likewise punished. One valid question is how can the Creator challenge all to work harder at relationships for better health and spirituality. Response to this challenge is a refining not defining method.

There must be found new active, not reactive, positive means for all to grow, and for all to work harder at family, community, church and relationships.

If these two functions of homosexuals, object and example, are eventually eliminated, what's left? Altruism. Homosexuals have more opportunity for altruism. While they are in all jobs, consider the large number in helping and artistic fields.

When homosexuals are understood and supported, including a church blessing when their relationships become stable and monogamous, they expand on their natural altruistic role. Expand in an active, positive way, more constructive and contributory.

In line with this altruistic role, proper timing for the greater good should be the framework for instituting such blessings.

Steve Wynn
San Francisco

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LETTERS

Pride Bail Out

The following was sent to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

★ From 1978 to 1984 I served as president or chair of the board of directors of the Pride Foundation. Last April, I turned the presidency over to Brandy Moore. During his term, several talented persons withdrew from the organization. Fortunately, since his resignation, some of those people are willing to return and continue the work of the foundation which began twelve years ago.

The purpose of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds is to bring money to low income neighborhoods. From 1981 to 1985, approximately \$3 million has been brought to the Hayes-Fillmore neighborhood due to Pride's effort (and your support) through grants, donations, payrolls and funds to preserve low-income housing. No other organization is doing this work in this neighborhood. The Hayes Valley Community Development Corporation is a small committee and advisory board to Pride. It is not a corporation, and does not have the ability to manage the Pride Center.

The Pride Foundation has raised nearly \$2 for every \$3 of city granted capital improvements. How many other CDBG grantees can match that record? Pride has a similar record in raising program income. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, Pride's program income was \$640,000, of which \$340,000 came from city contracts and \$300,000 was generated by Pride in client fees, service fees, rents, donations, fundraisers, etc. How many city funded organizations can match that record of generating program income?

The Pride Foundation is very frugal. Out of the above program income, less than \$10,000 went to the Pride Foundation for administrative overhead. When renovating the side building for Pride's residential alcohol program, Acceptance House, the original architect's estimate was \$550,000. Pride will soon complete the renovations for a total cost under \$200,000, thus saving \$350,000 by the use of talented volunteer business executives, carpenters and an engineer. I invite you to visit the building and see the quality of the result.

All expenditures are reviewed in the same frugal manner. The mortgage and interest due total approximately \$800,000, but Pride is negotiating with the Sisters of the Holy Family to buy out this amount for \$500,000. Your commitment of \$250,000 is needed to stop an otherwise immediate foreclosure. If the \$250,000 is allocated, I believe Pride can raise \$100,000 in the next year and, by that time, could finance a \$150,000 loan. It is too late to engage in fantasies of creating or bringing in another organization. Pride welcomes on its board of directors and committees any persons with ability who are willing to work to preserve the Center.

Without your help, Pride will face an immediate foreclosure that will also affect a dozen other programs. Where will the childcare find rent of 25 cents per square foot? Where else will the senior program find free rent? Where will the Shanti Project, who help people with AIDS, find a building with numerous meeting rooms, conference rooms and an auditorium to train their scores of volunteers? What about the 800 to 900 persons per month who use the Pride Center? I certainly hope that the prior investment of the city and county, the extensive volunteer contributions of time and money and the numerous services are not lost from the Hayes-Fillmore neighborhood.

I recall the comments of several elderly black women who use the Pride Center. They said, "You have given us hope." Will this hope be preserved or destroyed?

It has been very difficult to develop this new facility during a time of shrinking governmental resources. The margin of difference has been the dedication, frugality and talent of the volunteer board and committee members. The extensive use of volunteers as management has created problems, but we should focus on their accomplishments and not the negative backbiting.

I urge you to allocate \$250,000 to the Pride Foundation so that the many services will remain in the Hayes-Fillmore neighborhood. I and others are available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Larry Long
San Francisco

Computer Data

★ I read your article *They've Got Your Number—Computer Lists and Gay Data* (B.A.R. 3/14) and was dismayed by the inaccuracies I found, as well as the general tone of the article. Specifically I refer to the paragraphs dealing with the insurance industry and the Medical Information Bureau, and the other sources of medical and "sexual" information available to insurance companies.

It is true, as stated in the article, that the MIB stores medical information which it can receive from, and give to, member life and health insurers to use in the process of underwriting insurance applications. However, the information is in a numerically coded form, and once deciphered is deliberately too general for the company to use as anything other than an "alert" to investigate further and document the code on its own. Indeed, it is against regulatory statutes for a company to use the MIB information in any other way.

While the MIB does contain codes related to data from health records, including psychiatric disorders as stated in your article (all of which are important underwriting criteria), the MIB does not contain codes for "drinking patterns" or "sexual behavior." Alcohol is

coded only as "alcohol use" by very strict guidelines as it impacts directly on health and longevity as well as personal safety, and as it is confirmed only by the applicant, a medical source, or civil/criminal records.

As for information on "sexual behavior," the only code for this was for "sexual deviation" which was dropped entirely from the MIB code list May 1, 1974, eleven years ago. There exists no other such code in its place.

I give similar strong criticism to the article's comment about another source of underwriting information, "Equifax, Inc., which carries cohabitation information and draws unfavorable inferences from it." This is an absurd summary of a very complicated information-gathering system. Equifax (and the other companies like it) only supply information directly from interviews and official records; no evaluations or "inferences" are made in those reports. The way the article is worded, one would think such companies exist to ferret out all cohabitating homosexuals just to draw negative inferences for the insurance industry!

The fact is, in my experience, the insurance industry does not look at homosexual cohabitation nor homosexuality *per se* as a relevant consideration for insurance purposes, and I do not believe it will begin to do so directly if such information is developed on an applicant, even in light of the growing AIDS crisis. But what the industry will do in my opinion is much more efficient and to the point: to discriminate against the markers of the disease itself, a perfectly appropriate underwriting function, once statistics are developed to back it up. What the industry will need to do this is to acquire the hard statistical data from the medical profession (yet to be developed) which shows the degree of reliability of the AIDS blood test in predicting development of the disease in a population of positive-test subjects. That could be a powerful underwriting tool unless otherwise blunted by state or federal legislation.

There is good reason for serious concern in matters of medical confidentiality and possible backsliding in the areas of Gay civil rights. With a homophobic and AIDS-hysterical straight press, the Gay press must work even harder for accuracy, completeness, and level-headedness. However, the article *They've Got Your Number* tried to cover a complicated array of subjects in too cursory a fashion. The result was a long series of statements intended to be factual, which were really so shallow they could only confuse and incite readers, not inform them.

Gregory Abrams
San Francisco



Miss Mary-Louise,
aka Brian Jones (Photo: Rink)

Affectation

★ I had to respond to Brian Jones' reply to Bob Jacobson's letter. Jacobson could not understand why the image of Gays is often projected as bearded men in dresses, or other manifestations of drag. Neither do I understand this. Nor can I comprehend Jones stating that, "We are not men." Speak for yourself.

In the general sense, all Gays should support the rights of all Gays. But why is it that Gay males who walk, speak and live without affectations are branded as "straight-acting"? Masculine—not macho—Gay males are adored as sex objects but often despised in real life by those who prefer to live as stereotypes. It's no wonder that so many Gay males and bisexuals hide behind the shelter of "uptown" marriages. If we had those numbers, those millions, among us, Gay liberation would be a meaningful force in America.

I once had this argument in print with the editors of the long-defunct *Gay Liberator* of Detroit. They insisted that until our most bizarre stereotype is accepted by society, none of us will be accepted. I say bullshit. Where would black liberation be today if blacks had insisted that white America accept "Amos n' Andy" and "Buckwheat" as serious representatives of the black community?

Perhaps we shouldn't give a damn about being accepted by straights. I don't. But something is wrong when Gay males without affectations are branded as closet cases or "straight identified."

Go ahead, Brian Jones, get the last word or lose this letter, but you can't dismiss the importance of outwardly-Gay-but-unaffected Gay males. Our quiet role models do more for kids trying to come out, and for Gay liberation, than a whole army of bearded ladies.

Jerry Rosco
New York City



POLITICS AND POKER

What a Cop Out

The town was abuzz this week about the scathing three-part series that the *San Jose Mercury News* did this week on our City's finest, "San Francisco Cops: Out of Control?". Sunday's *Mercury* front page carried a number of items that have to have Chief Murphy's office nervous—everything from the usual explanations to a half-page photo of one of our most celebrated cops, former Sgt. Greg Corrales (yes, that Greg Corrales), with his own pompous admissions that his 16 years on the force has resulted in more than 100 citizens' complaints and half a dozen lawsuits, most resulting from brutality charges.

In his best John Wayne fashion, Corrales brags that he is admittedly a "hot dog." Some I know would come up with different names for him. But that didn't stop him from being promoted recently to lieutenant, thanks to a promotional system that looks the other way when it comes to gun-swinging cowboys with blue uniforms and shiny badges.

The *Mercury News* story points out that when officers such as Corrales, despite an embarrassing record, seek promotions, a city policy forbids the department from considering applicant's seniority and disciplinary records. All that counts is a test score.

The reporters who assembled the series report that Mayor Dianne Feinstein refused to be interviewed for the series, but there are those at City Hall who would tell us that the continuing series of incidents with the department over the past couple of years is beginning to wear thin with the Mayor. She is reported to be beginning to express some real disappointments to those closest to her about the continuing embarrassing incidents with the department.

The *Mercury News* investigation found that crime-solving rates this city near the bottom of the police forces in the eight largest California cities, and noted, too, that San Francisco has quietly paid out a whopping \$1.2 million in settled claims and lawsuits in fiscal year 1984, nearly tripling what was paid out by the City in similar settlements in the previous year.

San Francisco recorded the highest number of citizens' complaints by any of the six big city departments in California—including L.A., where the force is twice as large. Gary Hayes, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum in D.C., said, "San Francisco has suffered from poor supervision and bad discipline," adding that when "you put those things together it's unfortunately a lethal combination."

Con Murphy has used the line that it's just a "few bad apples," but that's wearing thin. Two such cops—Scott Quinn and Niall Philpott—were convicted of brutality last week. After the jury found Officer Quinn guilty of beating the hell out of a helpless, handcuffed, Gay man, his partner Philpott turned chicken-shit, plea bargained his ass away to avoid facing a jury trial, and both have since resigned from the force.

Rotten apples? Indeed, Chief, and you can't tell me that someone "in authority" didn't know about these two cops before they were brought to trial on these charges. Where the hell is



Con Murphy (Photo: Rink)

the supervision? Who's at fault? Is it the Chief? The Mayor?

Somebody at City Hall and on the 5th floor of the Hall of Justice had better get their act together pretty soon and take a good, long look at this department. This city and its citizens are getting damned tired of a police chief who constantly makes excuses for incidents like Lord Jim's, the Rathskeller, the Marilyn Chambers incident, and the beating of citizens by men who take an oath to uphold the law, instead of breaking it.

One of the more interesting comments in the *Mercury News* story came from William J. Murphy, an attorney who is a former City Cop, but who now both defends and sues the cops in court: "They don't have any goddamn dedication to the community; San Francisco is just a place where they come to kick ass before going home to their nice, quiet cul-de-sac in Walnut Creek."

The *Mercury News* makes another statement—one that an increasing number of San Franciscans are beginning to agree with: "Over the past year, past and present city leaders have come to the conclusion that the

responsibility for the department's problems lie with Murphy—and his boss Feinstein." The *San Jose Mercury News* printed a hell of a series. One has to hope that the editors of the *Chronicle* and *Examiner* took time to read it.

★ ★ ★

The State Senate voted last week for a hefty pay raise, from \$33,732 (plus countless perks) to \$37,105 a year. Peninsula Republican Becky Morgan was the only Northern California senator to vote against the raise . . . Dianne angling for yet another term? A couple of people called me this week to report on being polled by someone claiming to be from the Clint Reilly organization, who after asking endless questions on the "downtown plan," suddenly began asking whether those polled would support a charter amendment to allow the mayor to run for more than two terms, with another question reportedly being something along the line of whether they would then support Feinstein for another term in office. When I asked one Democratic leader this week what this all meant, his comment was, "Look, she's obviously working this angle—she's afraid of Cranston, can't beat Deukmejian, and apparently thinks that Sala's congressional seat isn't important enough for her. What the Hell is left?" . . . Former Governor Edmund "Pat" Brown, who gave a cool \$1 million to the University of California last week (politics and investments have been veerrrrrry, veerrrrrry, good to him) turns 80 next month and will be honored at a black-tie dinner at the Beverly Hilton in L.A. on April 21st and our very own Mayor Dianne will be among the featured speakers . . . Let me add my congratulations to Rob Epstein, Richard Schmiechen and all of those involved in the production of the Academy Award-winning film, *The Times of Harvey Milk*, a film we can all be proud of . . . Don't invite Supervisor Dick Hongisto and Mayor Feinstein to the same smoke-filled room; this one is really getting bitter. ■

WAYNE FRIDAY

State Warns Museum on Veterans Rights

Responding to formal complaints filed by Paul D. Hardman, commander of the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion, the California attorney general issued a sharp warning to the trustees of the San Francisco War Memorial, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), and the War Memorial Commission to recognize veterans rights to use the Veterans' Building in San Francisco Civic Center.

Using the threat that "litigation is distinctly possible," deputy attorney general Joanne Condas advised representatives of those agencies to appear in her office to "give the attorney general and the other parties the benefit of a written statement of legal views."

The warnings came just days after the San Francisco city attorney had advised the trustees that the veterans' interests were not protected against the encroachment of MOMA and others privately operating in the

building, the attorney general noted the trustees were "politically" appointed, and the veterans were protected by state law. It was in sharp contrast that the attorney general declared that the Veterans' Building was held as a "public trust as much as it is a charitable trust," and specifically that the Alexander Hamilton Post, as a "constituent post" could readily sue and be joined by the attorney general "as a nominal party."

The decades of conflict regarding the rights of veterans in the Veterans' Building came to a head about a year ago when the museum attempted to demolish the Herbst Theater. Supervisor Louise Renne has thousands of letters opposing the museum's intentions. ■

(From a press release from the Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post 448.)



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Understanding Gay Heritage by Steve Perkins

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DATELINE: THE WORLD

Britons with AIDS Face Quarantine

The British government has granted local magistrates the power to order persons with AIDS detained in hospitals away from the general public amid mounting public hysteria over the disease.

Meanwhile, a well-known Gay rights advocate was attacked by six youths as he emerged from a London subway station — the latest in a series of anti-Gay incidents that has swept Britain in recent months.

Health Minister Kenneth Clarke, in addition to granting judges quarantine powers, also announced regulations that would prevent the relatives of persons who have died of AIDS from claiming the bodies.

"The authorities are required to take all reasonably practical steps" to prevent people from contact with the body of a deceased AIDS victim, Clarke said.

He insisted, however, that the measures are to be taken only as a last resort.

The move marks the first time anywhere that persons with AIDS would be restricted, and comes at a time when there is mounting hysteria in Britain over the disease which has claimed 132 people there.

That hysteria carries with it a mounting public hostility against Gays, who, like their American counterparts, comprise the majority of British AIDS victims.

Peter Tatchell, one of Britain's best known Gay rights activists, emerged from a London subway station earlier this month, when he was set upon by six teenagers.

Tatchell reported that one of the young toughs pulled a knife and the others started kicking and beating him. Tatchell fled into traffic and escaped by boarding a passing bus.

Gays were banned for several days from one of five pubs in Liverpool owned by Joseph Farley, who told reporters that AIDS "could be the worst epidemic since the Black Plague (of the Middle Ages)."

His ban, which drew banner headlines in Britain's tabloid dailies, was rescinded only after health authorities assured him that AIDS cannot be spread through casual contact.

The hysteria has been fanned by huge scare headlines in Britain's tabloid dailies, particularly the Rupert Murdoch owned *London Sun*, which at more than three million is the largest circulation daily in Western Europe.

Court Upholds Ouster of Lesbian from ROTC

A U.S. District Court ruling last year that ordered the Army to reinstate a Lesbian to its Reserve Officers Training Corps program has been overturned by a federal appeals court.

The First Circuit Court of Appeals in New York reversed a decision by the District Court in Maine that Dianne Matthews be reinstated after the Army ordered her ouster in 1982 when she told a superior officer that she was a Lesbian.

In a move that was sharply criticized as "improper" by Matthew's attorney, the appeals court did not consider whether Army regulations calling for

dismissal of self-proclaimed Gays and Lesbians are unconstitutional on the grounds of freedom of speech.

The appeals court sent the case back to District Court Judge D. Brock Hornby to take into account new evidence by the Army — accumulated during the Army's appeal of the district court's ruling — that Matthews engaged in homosexual activity.

The district court had ruled that the Army had violated Matthews' First Amendment rights by dismissing her merely for saying that she was a Lesbian, rather than on any proven incidents of homosexual activity.

A similar case involving an Oklahoma school teacher is now pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The appeals court cited Matthews' application for reenrollment into the ROTC program after the district court's ruling, in which Matthews acknowledged engaging in homosexual acts on numerous occasions — including one very recently.

"It is not ordinarily proper for an appellate court to take notice of new evidence not in the record," the appeals court said in its opinion. "Nonetheless, it would be preferable to resolve this case on the grounds of actual conduct, rather than to undertake a review of the serious constitutional issues presented in the district court's opinion."

Matthews' attorney, Robert Mittell, sharply challenged the appellate court's decision. "They have the evidence that was presented to the (District) court, and that's (all) that they're supposed to be considering."

Mittell said he will file a petition to the entire 11-member appeals court to reconsider the case, adding that there is plenty of precedent "that you can't introduce new evidence at the appellate court level (except in criminal cases)."

William Cole, the Justice

Department attorney representing the Army, declined to comment on the case.

★ ★ ★

DC AIDS Info Blitz Aimed at Minorities

In a new education drive against AIDS, Washington's Metro rapid transit system began circulating nine million farecards that carry messages about AIDS on the backs.

The farecards, similar in design to BART tickets and MUNI Fast Passes, noted that there are more than 200 cases of AIDS in the DC metropolitan area and that half of them are among Black and Hispanic people.

The Metro tickets are being distributed heavily at Metro stations in neighborhoods with large Black and Hispanic populations. Washington's population is more than 70 percent Black and 15 percent Hispanic.

Borrowing the slogan of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, "The best defense against AIDS is information," the Metro tickets urge riders to call the Whitman-Walker Clinic's AIDS hotline for information.

The clinic, which contracted with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to have the AIDS message carried on Metro farecards, is conducting the campaign "to dispel the myth that only White people get AIDS," according to Caitlin Ryan, general manager of the clinic's AIDS Education Fund.

With the Metro tickets, "we can reach a phenomenal number of people for not a lot of money." The campaign is costing the clinic \$2,200.

Metro has an estimated daily ridership of 220,000, about equal that of BART.

★ ★ ★

The week's items are based on reports in *The New York Times*, *The Times of London*, and *The Washington Blade*.

Boycott Urged in Houston

The Human Rights Campaign Fund has called on the national Gay and Lesbian community to boycott businesses and organizations that opposed Houston's city ordinance prohibiting discrimination against Gay people.

The ordinance, which was passed by the Houston City Council in June, 1984, amended the city's civil service and affirmative action program to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in city hiring and firing. It was subsequently overturned in a January 19 referendum following weeks of anti-Gay campaigning by a well-financed coalition of conservative and business groups.

"The Houston case is a very frightening and discouraging one for Gays across the country," said Duke Comegys, HRCF Co-Chair, who spearheaded an effort that raised \$2,000 for Community PAC, one of the Houston organizations that fought the referendum. "We're trying to lend our support to the group that fought in favor of the ordinance as a symbol of Gay solidarity on a national level." Community PAC was left with a sizable debt following the referendum.

Members of Houston's business community joined with

the Houston Chamber of Commerce, local Republican groups, a city-wide organization of black ministers and local chapters of the Ku Klux Klan. The coalition's campaign charged that the ordinance amounted to an "endorsement" of the homosexual lifestyle, would lead to quotas in the hiring of Gays by the city, and would see Houston become a "Gay mecca."

"We were surprised to see an organization as supposedly upstanding as the Chamber of Commerce join forces with the Ku Klux Klan in endorsing discrimination," said HRCF Co-Chair Vivian Shapiro. "We're hoping that some flexing of the Gay community's economic muscle will send businesses a message — both in that city and in others."

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is the only national bipartisan political action committee dedicated to supporting equal political treatment for Gays and Lesbians.



Sobering Words. Supes Finance Committee (from L.) Walker, Renne and Hongisto heard hard facts on Pride. (Photo: Rink)



James Johnson (Photo: Rink)

City Rejects Bailout; Pride Is Foreclosed

Questions on Fiscal Responsibility Doom Effort to Save Pride Center

by Charles Linebarger

The Pride Foundation failed last week in efforts to stave off foreclosure on its large Hayes Valley headquarters. The Board of Supervisor's Finance Committee voted Wednesday, March 20, against granting Pride the \$250,000 in federal block grant money the foundation had hoped to use in its fight to keep the Pride Center at Hayes and Fillmore. The following morning the Pride Center was auctioned from the steps of City Hall.

A large and noisy crowd had gathered in the Finance Committee at City Hall for the hearing on the Pride bailout. Committee Chair, Supervisor Louise Renne, used her gavel several times to quiet the spectators, and once threatened to have the next person to speak out of turn ejected from the room.

"Pride took \$5,300 from the Hayes Valley Community Development Corporation's low income housing account," James Johnson, the director of the Mayor's Office of Community Development, told the hearing. "That's a serious violation."

"There have been problems with administration and management at Pride . . . I don't even have a list of Board members. If we have to sue them, I don't know who to sue," Johnson said.

"I think we need to lay everything out," Johnson continued. "In 1978, under Moscone, \$375,000 was given to Pride to purchase the building. That was one-half the purchase price. Pride swore on ten stacks of Bibles that they would be able to amortize the rest of the indebtedness. Since then . . . we have contributed almost another \$400,000 (to Pride). In contrast Bernal Heights was able to purchase and rehabilitate a community center for \$500,000,"

DISMAL PICTURE

Supervisor Nancy Walker asked what would happen to the property if the city didn't give Pride the \$250,000. Johnson painted a dismal picture of the foundation's financial health.

In the years following the original city-paid-for down payment on the property, Pride has made no additional payments on the mortgage, according to Johnson. Today the foundation owes more on the Hayes Valley site than the original purchase price. "It's going to take a substantial amount of money in addition to the \$250,000 to save this center from foreclosure," Johnson said.

Supervisor Renne asked Johnson how much more would be needed to save Pride. "I think it's going to take half a million dollars," Johnson answered.

Pride's attorney, Tom Baker, told the hearing that he didn't know whether the \$5,300 taken from the Hayes Valley CDC had been improperly spent, according to the federal rules governing the funds. But he did provide Johnson with a list of current Pride Board members.

Baker said that the cost of rehabilitating the property had zoomed since the original estimates, in part because of a change in zoning regulations governing the site. He said that the quarter of a million dollars in bailout money would buy Pride time to find more money with which to save the building.

"If you could raise a million dollars," Supervisor Walker said, "then we'd give you the money. But I don't have faith (in Pride) anymore. Everybody here was once for Pride. We just can't throw any more money down this rat hole. I didn't want to make a decision on this today, but I guess now I have to."

"After tomorrow this will be moot," Baker said, alluding to the impending foreclosure.

"Again I say to Pride," Supervisor Walker said, "If you can put some money together and buy yourself some time and then come back, we'll see if we can find you some money."

PRIDE FORECLOSED

The Finance Committee voted against granting Pride the bailout money, a decision that was backed up by the full Board of Supervisors on Monday, March 25. The Pride Center itself was foreclosed on the steps of City Hall on the morning following the Finance Committee hearing, Thursday, March 21.

Negotiations are under way now, according to Pride attorney Tom Baker, with the Catholic religious order which foreclosed on the Center. Baker

hopes to insure that the services now doing business at the Hayes Valley site can continue there until the property is sold.

"It's quite likely we'll be there for some months," Baker said. "I expect a lengthy marketing period. The issue for Pride now becomes what sort of services are most appropriate for it to

provide to the community."

In the meantime, the Hayes Valley CDC has begun to formally incorporate itself as a non-profit corporation and has begun talking to city officials. If Pride loses its contract with the city, Hayes Valley hopes to be able to stand on its own legs as a replacement.

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By DR. RICK PETTIT

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Another Opinion on Handballing Risks

Sixth in a Series

Mountain Climbing is Risky Too; Training and Tools Are the Issue

by Richard Locke

There has been quite a lot not said about fisting. Cock suckers and ass fuckers have received guidelines and risk reduction techniques, but not the fisters. "They" say that "fisting is extremely dangerous."

They say this not so much from the standpoint of disease transmission, but from the standpoint that fisting is an ugly sex act.

Handballing or fisting is non-mucosa sex—unless you happen to be jerking off with cock and hand inside his ass, which is extremely dangerous; minute or even large trauma and semen is a bad combination.

But handballing from the standpoint of disease transmission is safer than fucking without a condom. This is predicated upon the idea that there is no bleeding, or trauma to receive microorganisms. If you have a cut on your hand don't stick it in somebody's butt. Don't come in somebody's rectum, ever.

A thorough body scrub, especially the hands, nails and arms—as if you were a surgeon ready to do surgery—is required for minimum hygiene. Use a lubricant dispenser, such as an automotive grease gun filled with your favorite lubricant; no "double dipping" into the same Crisco can.

Use separate cans and label them with the names of the people involved. Limit yourself to low to no drug intake, so that the bottom is aware of his limits. Have a sensitive partner who cares about yours and his own health. If this is accomplished there is little to no risk of disease transmission.

Handballing can be suicidal and homicidal, or a reflection of the two, depending on the people who engage themselves in this activity. It can also be a healthful, recreational sport fuck. It really boils down to the two or more people involved in it. It can be mind-boggling for the top as well as the bottom as you reach the limits of the activity. It can be religious. It can be exactly what you want it to be.

Before I started handballing my asshole seemed always to be either going into or coming out of a hemorrhoidal stage. Initially my problems began when I was in the army as a tank corpsman where I had to sit on cold steel to do my work.

After I got into getting fucked it was caused by short cocks that sort of jabbed at my hole. There were tears created by people with long finger nails.

Stress at work, from my family or lover, would create diarrhea that tore at my hole. Clap and amoebae took its toll as well.

I have not had one problem with my ass hole for over four years. I attribute this good fortune to handballing, being free of disease, and letting stressful situations dissolve. I have trained my asshole and myself. It's wonderful to have a bowel movement without screams and grunts of pain.

The sphincter muscle has only two other muscles like it in the whole body; the eye muscles that cause you to wink. The sphincter can be very delicate. It can also be very resilient.

Just inside the sphincter is the prostate where the seminal fluid is stored after the testes produce the fluid. In and around that are

the perineum muscles which pump blood into the cock.

The blood is stored in a pocket beside these muscles. This pocket of blood can be hemorrhaged very easily and this is the reason that handballing can be very dangerous. People can bleed to death very quickly if this pocket is ruptured.

The anal canal is a mucous membrane that is also very resilient and can be stretched and trained just as the sphincter can be trained. This membrane, if scratched while it is stretched, can pop and tear just as a balloon can be popped. Therefore it can be a very dangerous area.

With all this danger in handballing, it is not to be attempted by people who haven't trained themselves. Climbing mountains is dangerous but not impossible. So is handballing. You have to have the knowledge and the tools to do both.

Handballing can be done with surgical gloves, if that is your choice, but there is a case for gloveless handballing as well. I think that the sense of touch should remain intact for penetrating handballing. With the danger that is involved, this response is crucial for safe handballing.

Others, from the standpoint of disease transmission, feel safer using gloves. With gloves the fingernail ends are smoother and trauma from sharp nails is reduced. It is a matter of choice and common sense. I have no idea where gloves can be purchased.

Before handballing the anal canal must be cleaned of all debris. As with all ass play the douche should be two to three hours before the ass play is to begin. Use the aloe vera before and after ass play.

Many people who are into handballing use their eyes for communication; I prefer to talk about it. I try to guide the top when I'm on the bottom. When I'm the top I question him about the progress. Communication is very important.

I never handball with anyone who doesn't get handballed. I want experienced people in my hole for this kind of action. If he doesn't have a red hanky in his right pocket I don't go with him. It's as simple as that.

There are those who pontificate in their ivory towers about the dangers of handballing who have never had a finger up their butt. Some of these same people are promoting celibacy as a solution to AIDS. There are statistics that can be made to back up any statements.

I have experience as well as the experiences of others to draw upon. I have only known one person who went to the hospital. He asked for it, was suicidal about it and had a partner who was known to be dangerous. It was very attractive to him.

It's not what you do, where you do it, who you do it with, it's not when you do it nor why you do it, it's how well you do it. Handballing can be a sensible activity.

DEATHS

Charles Fraga

Charles Fraga, 31, died Tuesday, March 12 at the Fort Miley VA Hospital after a brief bout with pneumonia. A native of El Paso, Texas, Charles is survived by his parents and brothers and sisters, all resident in Texas.

Charles will be interred at Roselawn Memorial Park in El Paso, Texas.

For further information, contact 753-6564.

Jerome Gengler

Jerome Gengler was born Feb. 9, 1943 and died March 18 of AIDS-related illnesses. He is survived by his lover of 19 years, Ken Holmberg, his twin brother, Gerald, and numerous family and friends.



Jerry was born in Minnesota. He was a graduate of the Minneapolis School of Art and was an accomplished photographer and graphic artist. For the past ten years, since moving to San Francisco, he had been a sales representative for several large clothing manufacturers.

Jerry will be remembered for his light touch and his quick sense of humor. He was an easy and loving person who inspired those around him with his generosity, his smile and that twinkle in his eye. He will be sorely missed by all those who knew him.

Death Notices Policy

The Bay Area Reporter publishes death notices as a community service free of charge. Inclusion is at the request of surviving loved ones, loved ones or immediate family. Items are submitted by survivors.

Please include complete name, age and other information to identify the subject to friends and acquaintances. If a memorial service is planned which you wish to publicize, include date, time and place. A telephone contact number is also helpful.

Notices of more than 100 words in length may be edited for space.

AIDS Fundraiser

The Endup will host an all day fundraiser on Sunday, March 31, at 401 6th Street to benefit Hospice of San Francisco and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

The fundraiser will be highlighted with an Easter Bonnet Contest at 7:30 p.m. with a total of \$300 in cash prizes for the top three winners.

Crime Victims' Rights

The American Civil Liberties Union has announced the publication of a legal handbook that could not have been written a decade ago: *The Rights of Crime Victims*. The ACLU handbook, by attorneys James Stark and Howard W. Goldstein, reviews the statutes and court cases that have given victims a new position in the criminal justice system.

The Rights of Crime Victims costs \$4.95. It may be ordered from the Literature Department, ACLU, 132 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036. Add \$1.00 for postage and handling.

New Evidence Is Growing On the Perils of Poppers

Nitrite Inhalants Linked as a 'Co-Factor' Which Increases Chances of Full-Scale AIDS

by Ray O'Loughlin

The Los Angeles AIDS Task Force on Feb. 14 formally warned those at risk of contracting AIDS to avoid using nitrite inhalants (poppers). Meanwhile, the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC), in its pamphlet *About AIDS*, no longer advises that use of poppers can be assumed to be harmless to the immune system. And scientific journals continue to publish studies indicating that poppers may damage the human body's immune functions.

With data piling up against amyl and butyl nitrites, commonly used to enhance sexual sensations, they are again coming under fire for their possible role in the development of AIDS. Poppers are not considered to be a direct cause of the deadly ailment, which is generally now presumed to be caused by the HTLV-3 virus. But the role of co-factors such as poppers is coming to be seen as crucial to the course of the illness. Besides use of poppers, co-factors include poor nutrition, high stress, co-infection with a number of viruses, and use of recreational drugs, among other things.

"The study is not conclusive," said Dr. Neil Schram of the L.A. AIDS Task Force, "but the data is suggestive that use of inhalants is linked to the development of AIDS."

The study he referred to was one done by Dr. Harry Haverkos of the National Institutes of Health. Haverkos demonstrated a correlation between the use of nitrite inhalants and the development of Kaposi's Sarcoma (KS), a form of cancer common in AIDS sufferers. According to Schram, Gay men make up 93 percent of all KS cases although Gays account for only 70 percent of all AIDS cases. He suspects that use of poppers contributes to the overwhelming preponderance of Gays in the KS figures.

"We know that poppers are immunosuppressive," said Hank Wilson of the Committee to Monitor Poppers, "but the extent of that has not been determined."

NEW RESEARCH

According to a number of scientific journals that have published research into nitrites, their impact on the immune system is multi-faceted. Nitrites themselves could damage the immune system, reported one, or produce known cancer-causing chemicals (nitrosamines) in the body that could impair immunity.

Since nitrites expand blood vessels, which is the reason they heighten sensual stimulation, their use may also enhance the transmission of disease. "Dilation of blood vessels from nitrite inhalation during ano-genital intercourse could facilitate the entry of a transmissible agent, presumably viral, or the passage of sperm," reported a group of researchers in the journal *Pharmacotherapy* (Sept.-Oct., 1984).

"These are plausible theories," wrote Dr. Kenneth H. Mayer in the same issue of *Pharmacotherapy*, "that are not deflated by the elucidation of HTLV-3/LAV."

Mayer concedes that poppers may be a harmless "surrogate marker" for disease but, nonetheless, warns that it may be that "exposure to HTLV-3/LAV is not in and of itself the sole determinant of whether an individual develops AIDS."

In another scientific journal, *Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy* (1984), a team of researchers at the Texas Medical Center in Houston, reported that "Since a multifactorial depression of immunity and a certain duration of this depression probably sets the stage for successful infection of the presumed AIDS agent, the continued and prolonged use of isobutyl nitrite may play an important role in AIDS."

The scientists said they found that poppers impaired the ability of certain cells to fight off cancer cells which could account for the disproportionate number of KS cases in Gay men. Their findings are believed to be the first to be derived directly from human subjects and not from artificial laboratory conditions. They conclude unequivocally that "isobutyl nitrite should not be used by man."

POPPERS MAKER

W. J. Freezer, whose firm Pharmex/Pacific Western Distributing manufactures Rush and Bolt, did not return the *Bay Area Reporter's* phone calls for comment. But in a November 1983 statement to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors regarding an ordinance requiring that warnings be posted wherever poppers are sold, Freezer said that nitrites had passed "what is probably the most thorough screening given any consumer product available today."

He was referring to tests given by the federal Consumer Products Safety Commission that found no health hazard in using isobutyl nitrites for what they are claimed to be, noninhaled room odorizers. The commission, and the Food and Drug Administration, have never tested nitrites as they are in fact most commonly used—as sexual stimulants inhaled directly from the bottle.

Freezer stated in his 1983 remarks that although nitrites have long been known to be possibly cancer-causing, the amount of nitrite inhaled is less than that consumed in breakfast bacon. He also pointed out that "there are no advertisements endorsing the inhalation of these products for drug purposes."

Hank Wilson dismissed the claim that poppers are not drugs as "just outright fraud." He said the FDA and the CPSC have been "irresponsible" in their refusal to treat poppers as drugs. "They know they are used to give a sensational effect," said Wilson.

Wilson accused poppers manufacturers of deliberately confusing consumers. "The companies continue to run ad campaigns claiming millions are sold around the world, reassuring people they're all right to use." He said, "People think poppers were once under suspicion but have been cleared." He pointed to the revised pamphlet from the CDC as evidence that such is not the case.

'HARD CORE'

Nevertheless, sales of poppers in San Francisco have remained steady, according to one store
(Continued on next page)



Nothing to Sniff At. New evidence on poppers hazards should clear the heads of even the die-hards. (Photo: Rink)

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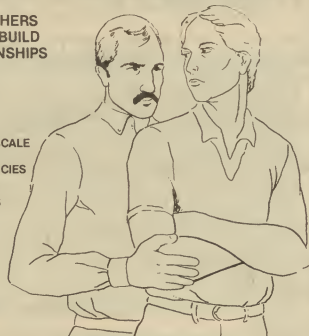
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Shanti Defends Itself Against Charges It Is Slighting Women

Exclusive Focus on People Dealing With AIDS Prevents Services to Those With Other Illnesses

by Charles Linebarger

Supervisor Nancy Walker, at a recent meeting of the Board of Supervisors Finance Committee, cast doubt on her support of the Shanti Project. She was responding to a statement by the attorney for the Pride Foundation in which he mentioned the Shanti Project, among others, as a worthy service organization making its home in the Pride Center.

Walker stated that she had heard complaints from women to the effect that Shanti was no longer serving women and she felt that this was an issue which should be addressed.

Walker's statement came several months after a group of women presented a petition to the staff and board of the Shanti Project complaining that Shanti was no longer providing services to women. This came in a reaction to a move by Shanti in November 1983 to restrict its services to people with AIDS, and their loved ones.

"We are not turning away women," said Jim Rulon, a spokesman for Shanti. "While it is true that many of our people with AIDS have been men, some have been women. And we've always had many loved ones of people with AIDS who have been women."

Rulon pointed out that the Project's restriction of its services to those with AIDS means that some men as well as women are being turned away today. "If a Gay man had cancer and called Shanti for counseling, we'd unfortunately have to turn him down," Rulon said. A woman suffering from cancer would also be turned away. Before the AIDS epidemic, Shanti counseled sufferers of any terminal illnesses.

The reason, according to Rulon, is that the Project doesn't have the resources to offer counseling to everyone who is suffering from a possibly terminal illness. As with other health services in the city, the AIDS crisis has put an increasing strain on Shanti during the last two years.

Three weeks ago, according to Rulon, Shanti was facing a situation in which it was forced to tell people who had just been diagnosed with AIDS to wait a week for counseling because of the scarcity of counselors.

"Fortunately, a class of 65 new counselors was graduated so we have a few people in reserve now," Rulon said. "But what I'm afraid of is that by our next class in May we'll be behind again."

Shanti will be behind not



Nancy Walker (Photo: Rink)

because of any high turnover in counselors but because of the grim increase in the incidence of AIDS in the Bay Area's Gay male community. When Newsweek did its cover story on the AIDS crises in April 1983 there were fewer than 300 AIDS cases in California. Today there are approximately 900 just in the Bay Area.

Shanti is keeping up with the crisis and according to Rulon is almost always able to provide counseling upon request by AIDS patients and their family members and lovers. "But sometimes we've had to scramble," Said Rulon.

While admitting that the lack of services facing women who are suffering from non-AIDS related terminal illnesses is real, as it is for men in the same category, Rulon added that

there are women with AIDS in San Francisco and Shanti is counseling some of them.

And, pointing to the example of Zaire in Central Africa, Rulon noted, that AIDS in San Francisco may in a few years cease to be a largely Gay man's disease to become one of the general populace in which case its incidence may equalize between the sexes.

NGTF Creates Two New Posts

The board of directors of the National Gay Task Force has named Jeffrey Levi to the newly created post of director of governmental and political affairs, and announced the start of a nationwide search for candidates for another new position, director of administration and finance. The board also paid tribute to Virginia M. Apuzzo, outgoing executive director of the National Gay Task Force, for "her leadership, her concern, her talents and her commitment" to the advancement of the Lesbian and Gay community shown "throughout her life and particularly in the past two and one-half years."

The new management team will replace the position of executive director. The director of governmental and political affairs and the director of administration and finance will work within clearly defined roles and with the officers of the board to integrate board and staff in pursuit of the goals and mission of NGTF.

Levi, who will serve as acting executive director until the new management team is in place, has been NGTF Washington representative since March, 1983. He will continue to be based in the nation's capital. The director of administration and finance will be based in New York.

The requirements for the position of director of administration and finance include: a minimum of five years' experience in a professional/managerial capacity in an organization with a budget of at least \$500,000; experience in staff supervision and volunteer management; a general commitment to civil rights and the concept of Lesbian and Gay rights; excellent oral, written and negotiation skills; and excellent personnel and financial management skills. Computer literacy is preferred. The position also will require joint evaluation of staff performance with the director of governmental and political affairs. The National Gay Task Force is an equal opportunity employer. Women and Third World/people of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

Resumes with a covering letter should be sent to Dept. DAF, NGTF, Suite 1601, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011, and should be received no later than April 30.

Warnings on Poppers

(Continued from page 13)

owner who sells about 150 bottles a month.

"It's been pretty consistent," he said. "But it's basically the same people, the same hard core group, using them. It's not just people walking in off the street to buy poppers."

Like all retailers selling poppers in San Francisco, he is required to prominently display a warning sign at the point of sale cautioning users on the health hazards associated with nitrites. According to Wilson, most retailers have complied though the district attorney's office is watching for violations of the city ordinance.

Some retailers have stopped carrying poppers entirely. This shopkeeper has considered doing so. "If I find out definitely

that it's harmful, I would definitely take them out." For now, though, he feels it's a matter of personal choice.

A number of states have restricted or are considering restrictions on the use of poppers, according to Wilson. A move to require posted warnings throughout California may soon be initiated. Also under consideration is a prohibition against using poppers in public places because of secondary effects, as with cigarette smoke.

Wilson said, "The CDC should issue an alert to the at risk population." He added, "Co-factors are at a new level of consideration. For those exposed to AIDS, we want to make sure they don't lose the battle. Poppers could be the thing that tips the scales against them."

Feds Approve Pill To Treat Genital Herpes

The Food and Drug Administration on Jan. 29 approved a capsule form of the genital herpes drug acyclovir. Acyclovir had previously been available only as an intravenous solution for hospital administration and as an ointment. Genital herpes has become almost epidemic, with 300,000 new cases each year, second only to gonorrhea's one million new cases. It is estimated that 5 to 20 million Americans have herpes infections.

The new orally taken acyclovir will be labeled for the treatment not only of initial herpes infections, as are the earlier forms of the drug, but for the treatment and suppression of recurrent infections.

Many persons never or seldom have a return infection, but some are afflicted by 12 or more recurrences a year. In two studies of such patients, supported

by the National Institute of Health, oral acyclovir taken regularly for up to four months reduced the number of recurrences and/or their severity in more than 95 percent of cases.

Recurrences were prevented entirely in 40 to 75 percent of these patients. Short-term treatment of recurrences also was shown to be effective in some patients with less frequent attacks.

Intravenous acyclovir was approved in 1982 for severe initial genital herpes infections in hospitalized patients and the ointment was approved in 1982 for the treatment of initial genital herpes infections.

Studies indicate that oral acyclovir significantly reduces the duration of episodes and virus shedding.

Physician's labeling will warn that acyclovir should not be taken during pregnancy unless the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. Although animal tests did not show birth defects, the labeling states that "there are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women."

Studies of the drug's long-term use will continue. The studies submitted for today's approval support its use for a maximum of six months.

Genital herpes is a contagious disease spread by sexual contact. Symptoms appear up to three weeks after exposure to the

herpes virus and include pain, tingling and small blisters on the genital and/or anal areas. In the first infection, symptoms generally disappear in three weeks. However, in some people the viruses reactivate and cause new sores in the same areas several times a year.

The new capsules, containing 200 milligrams of acyclovir, will be sold under the trade name Zovirax by the Burroughs Wellcome Co. of Research Triangle Park, N.C.

From a press release provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Clinic Sponsors 'Smear Campaign'

Lyon-Martin Clinic, the nation's only full time general medical clinic for Lesbians and other women, is sponsoring a low cost pap smear and pelvic exam clinic on Saturday, March 30. The practitioners at the clinic will do basic gyn screening examinations for cervical and breast cancer and teach breast self-examination that has been shown to be an effective way for women to screen themselves for breast lumps.

The examinations are free; there will be a \$5 charge for the pap smear. No one will be turned away for lack of funds and MediCal will be accepted from women who have it. Appointments are available and can be made by calling the Clinic at 641-0220. Walk-in appointments will be handled as time allows. To ensure an appointment, please call the clinic by 5 p.m. Friday, March 29.

Blood Drive

On Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, the Women's Havurah of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will sponsor its bi-annual Blood Drive at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, 230 Masonic at Turk, San Francisco.

AN IMPORTANT PERSON-TO-PERSON APPEAL

We are calling on every individual to give some fresh thought to the AIDS crisis and to make some informed decisions about AIDS.

AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease. A disease that is transmitted person to person, like VD. The way to stop the AIDS epidemic is through the transmission of information, person to person. And then to act on it.

The latest information about AIDS.

- Since the beginning of the epidemic, 900 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed in San Francisco. At the current rate, we can expect to see 900 new cases in 1985 alone.
- Development of a vaccine or cure for AIDS is probably years away. No researcher feels even close.
- Two out of three Gay men in San Francisco have not yet been exposed and have the opportunity to completely avoid exposure to the AIDS virus.
- Studies indicate that about one out of three Gay men in San Francisco have already been exposed. That's roughly 30,000 men.
- Exposure to the AIDS virus doesn't mean that the final harm has been done. It may take repeated exposures before AIDS develops. However, people who have been exposed may be capable of spreading the virus to their sex partners.

The most important information about AIDS.

All of this means that AIDS prevention is vital for ourselves, our friends, our sex

AIDS SAFE SEX GUIDELINES

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 Massage, Hugging
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 Social Kissing (Dry)
 Body-To-Body Rubbing (Frottage)
Possibly Safe
 French Kissing (Wet)
 Anal Intercourse With Condom
 Sucking—Stop Before Climax
 Watersports—External Only
 Cunnilingus
Unsafe
 Anal Intercourse Without Condom
 Semen or Urine In Mouth
 Sharing Sex Toys
 Blood Contact
 Fisting
 Vaginal Intercourse Without Condom
© Bay Area Physicians For Human Rights (1984)

partners and our community. The *only* way to reduce risk of contracting the AIDS virus is to practice safer sex. There is some confusion about what is completely safe. There is *no* confusion, however, about what is completely unsafe.

We have to do it ourselves.

We applaud the efforts of many in our community who are working to get more funding for AIDS research. But research, even when properly funded, is an agonizingly slow process. It may take many years to develop, test, and produce a vaccine or cure for AIDS.

Until a medical solution is developed, only we Gay and bisexual men can stop the spread of this epidemic in our community. No one else, right now, can do that for us.

AIDS may be the most difficult issue we've ever had to deal with. But we've overcome challenges before, and won. There was Stonewall. Anita Bryant. John Briggs

and Proposition Six. The assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone.

We came through by joining together. By committing ourselves, our talents and energies, our collective strength and courage.

We can do the same with AIDS.

Change is taking place.

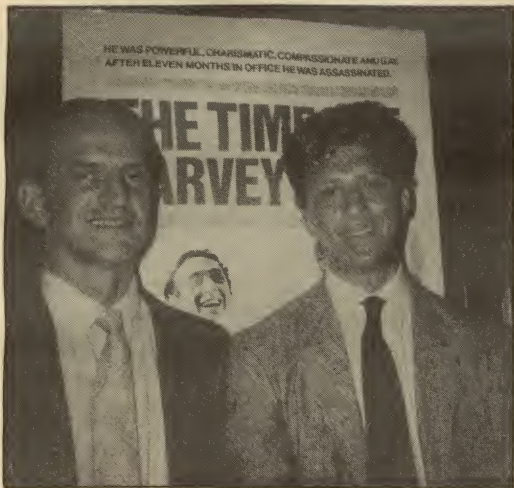
The good news is that people are having less Unsafe Sex. Sweeping change is taking place. The majority of sexually active Gay men have made major alterations in high risk sexual practices.

We'll be sharing with you the most up-to-date medical information and opinions on AIDS—including information about Safe and Unsafe Sex.

We believe that informed activity is the best defense against AIDS. By understanding and using information, we can stop the spread of AIDS.



For more information about AIDS prevention, call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation: (415) 863-AIDS Toll-Free in No. CA (800) FOR-AIDS TTY (415) 864-6606



Before the Show, Producer Richard Schmichen and Director Robert Epstein in Hollywood, prior to Academy Awards. (Photo: George Mendenhall)



Turned On, Tuned In. Academy Awards party for cast of 'After Dark' was just one Castro affair where Gay Oscar lit up the room. (Photo: Rink)

Hollywood Hope

(Continued from page 1)

passionate, adding, "It teaches us to support each other. I hope the academy is alerted to this film."

The staff which produced the Milk film received a standing ovation after the screening. Earlier in the evening, Chris Uzsler, chair of the Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Artists, said there is still a long way to go for Gays in film. AGLA sponsored the fund-raiser.

"Harvey talked about the need to destroy the myth perpetuated about Gay and Lesbian people," Uzsler urged. "Unfortunately, the motion picture industry is responsible for perpetuating many of those myths. Throughout film history, if we were depicted at all, we were shown as evil and self-hating or laughably ineffectual individuals whose lives were pointless and threatening to an orderly society."

"Today, some progress has been made but most of those myths remain. It is high time the motion picture industry began to tell the truth about Lesbian and Gay people."

"I feel I have just been to a funeral," Walden said after the screening. "I want to see it again." The actor urged that although cablevision's *Brothers* has two Gay characters, "it is not Gay and we are attempting to bring dignity to those roles. There is humanity and madness for everyone in *Brothers*. We are attempting to educate and you do the best with humor." Walden said he was proud of a recent segment that he wrote on Gay bashing.

Supervisor Harry Britt, who appears in the film, flew from San Francisco and surprised the crowd by saying that he had avoided seeing the film during its 17 week run in his city. Milk's successor said he thought seeing *Times* would be too emotionally disturbing. He called the film "remarkable" and stressed, "When Harvey said 'come out' he was asking for us to be strong, to give up the illusion that if we just behave ourselves, we will be respected." In a lighter vein, Britt remarked "Harvey would have loved all of this. The Oscar was made for Harvey."

CHOOSING A WINNER

The Milk film won two awards on the way to the Academy Awards. It was chosen as Best Documentary by the New York Film Critics and won the Grand Prize at the Nyon, Switzerland film festival. It has also been screened at festivals in Col-

orado, Canada, Chicago, Berlin, Paris, and Antwerp.

Times has had thirty playing engagements in the United States and an additional 20 are scheduled. It has a Public Television screening in November on prime time.

ACADEMY AWARDS

Fifty academy members select the five documentaries nominated from 80 entries. All 4,500 academy members may vote for the documentaries but members are required to attend special marathon screenings in order to qualify. Approximately 400 members actually voted in this category.

The *Times* film, like most documentaries, has limited commercial possibilities. While the film is now in its 25th week in New York City and ran for 17 weeks in San Francisco, it was closed after a one-month run in Los Angeles. Epstein believes the short L.A. run "may have had a negative psychological impact on the academy vote."

There was hope as the awards presentation neared. Comedi-



enne Lily Tomlin telegraphed the producer, "Ernestine can not make it. She is busy on the phone attempting to bribe academy voters."

G. Mendenhall



He Was an Extra. Harry Britt in Hollywood; he appeared in film campaigning against Prop. 6. (Photo: George Mendenhall)

The Film Comes Back Home

The Academy Award-winning film *The Times of Harvey Milk* returns home next week. It begins an extended run at the Lumiere on April 5.

On April 10, the film will screen at the Roxie in a benefit for the film project—which was a non-profit enterprise supported by hundreds of donors—and for the Film Arts Foundation.

Director Rob Epstein and editor Deborah Hoffman will show clips and spill the beans on the decisions which went into making the film.

Castro Cheer

(Continued from page 1)

my chest," said Smith. "When the announcement was made there were tears flowing as freely as the champagne."

Danny Nicolletta, a photographer and close friend of Harvey Milk, was thrilled as most were when the award was made. "He was most special to us when he was active but his spirit is certainly with us tonight."

Justifiably the most nervous people associated with the film were the producers Rob Epstein and Richard Schmichen. They said in Los Angeles that they had formulated their remarks in advance if the film won. The comments prepared, then put away, they endured last week-end as they attempted to keep calm.

Epstein had become somewhat of a nervous wreck in the last few weeks as the award night approached. He wore a borrowed tuxedo which was sent special delivery from an East Coast friend to San Francisco. Many of his friends wouldn't let him leave for Los Angeles until the old bell-bottomed trouser legs were altered.

Monday, in one of the rare extravaganzas of the film project, Rob Epstein moved into a room at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills where the official Oscar Ball was held later in the evening.

As the envelope was opened and the film announced, Schmichen and Epstein were keenly aware that their acceptance remarks would become as important as the film. One billion viewers, 77 countries; they both knew the implications. Rob Epstein made a point of acknowledging the contributions of film editor Deborah Hoffman and his lover John Wright. He then gave respectful and direct credit to Harvey Milk.

Co-filmmaker Richard Schmichen focused on the sense of responsibility in making the film and the courage and the pride which was so evident. He also thanked the many supporters who made the film possible. This acknowledgment was not just an empty gesture, for there were literally thousands of people who contributed money to help make this \$300,000 project a reality.

The moment hit like a lightning bolt from heaven for many of the people who knew Harvey Milk or who had been inspired by his life. *B.A.R.* columnist Wayne Friday was a close personal friend and political advisor to Milk. Bartending at the New Bell Saloon on Polk Street, Friday burst into tears when the an-

nouncement was made. "A big part of what Harvey Milk was all about," Friday said, "was certainly show biz and tonight somewhere he is smiling bigger than any of us. God, I'm thrilled."

At Badlands in the Castro, customer Frankie Crisp was jubilant. "Thank God there are so many Gay people in Hollywood," he said.

Rob Caldwell, a manager at Headlines, said it was just "fantastic" when he heard the news. He had been one of the many Headline employees who had sold tickets last Fall for the World Premiere of the film at the Castro Theatre.

Sitting with a group of friends in the Elephant Walk, Phyllis Fuller said, "We all got goosebumps when the award was announced." With her friends Scott MacCleveland and Steve Epps, they concluded that the award was "significant" and certainly proves that "Harvey Milk left us quite a legacy."

At the Bear on Castro there was screaming and cheering. Frederick Hovey, the bartender, said the mood was overwhelming and he personally was "very, very pleased." Like many others he felt the award was a symbol of personal pride.

In Los Angeles, popular local entertainer Tom Ammiano, who is featured in the film, attended the event. Interviewed from the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, the site of the presentation, Ammiano said, "When we won I laughed, I cried and I fell off Mel Gibson's lap I was so excited." Bursting with enthusiasm he said, "We are all so proud here."

Backstage at the theatre, co-filmmaker Richard Schmichen told the press how "the Academy Award validates the film." He explained to those that might be unaware, "It is a film about Gay people and people who are out of power."

A sharp contrast was the store front at Statements, a hi-tech furniture store on Castro. It was at that location that Harvey Milk had operated his crazy and wonderful camera shop. It was there he began his political career and operated his campaign headquarters.

As Gay men and Lesbians across San Francisco and around the world were displaying the full gamut of emotion, the storefront stood quietly in the evening chill air. In the window was one small light directed at a single empty chair. "Isn't it ironic," said Danny Nicolletta, "that the store is named 'Statements'?"

A. White

New Test for Immune Response

A more Standardized Method to Chart the Body's Defenses

There has been much publicity lately about the blood test for the antibody to the HTLV-3 virus and whether or not it is advisable for Gay men to be tested for this antibody. Now, another test has been made available which may be of more practical use in reassuring Gay men about the health of their cell-mediated immune systems.

This new test, called Multitest-CMI, is a type of skin test which measures the current state of the immune system without the need for expensive blood tests. This new test has been made available in this country by Merieux Institute, a French company associated with the Institut Pasteur in Paris.

The test is a disposable plastic applicator with eight sterile test heads similar to the plastic skin-test applicator used in tuberculosis skin testing. The eight test heads contain substances to which the average adult has been exposed, and to which the average adult generally has a predictable immune system response. The test is applied by pressing the device into the skin of the forearm so that the tiny needles puncture the surface of the skin, injecting the antigens.

The patient should show a reaction in 48 hours. The reaction takes the form of small raised bumps called "indurations," which are then measured by the doctor. The size of these indurations are compared to tables developed by Merieux, detailing the size of the average indurations for that particular type of patient. Gay males generally respond with a slightly lower reading than the average heterosexual male. These indurations usually disappear within a few days after the test is administered.

The test is relatively inexpensive (wholesale cost to the doctor or clinic is around \$15) and can be repeated every few months. This repetition provides the Gay man with a way to regularly monitor the status of his immune system during these times of concern about AIDS.

Most doctors are urging their Gay male patients to come in for regular check-ups every four to six months, at which time a general physical can be given and lymph nodes can be examined.

Now an inexpensive skin test checking the status of the cellular immune system can also be administered at this time. Moreover, the test is a totally private assessment involving no outside laboratories, record departments, etc. The results are read directly by the physician and remain totally confidential between the patient and the physician.

Many doctors have had some experience with skin testing for cell-mediated immune status in the past and have become convinced that this is an ineffective way to assess immune function. One reason for this is that, until the availability of Multitest, there was no standardized method of application.

Each antigen had to be separately injected by hypodermic needle, and the depth of the injection along with the amount of antigen are crucial elements to determining the significance of the resulting indurations. Another reason for the unreliability of previous skin testing procedures is that the quality and strength of the antigens varied, depending upon the source of the antigen.

These problems have been solved with Multitest. All antigens are of consistent strength and quality and all antigens are introduced into the skin at a standardized depth. Thus with a standardized application device and standardized antigens, the results of the test are

reproducible and reliable, unlike previous skin testing methods.

One further point must be made. It is important to note that a below average reaction to one application of the skin test does not indicate a compromised immune system or the onset of AIDS. Any number of diseases or conditions can suppress the immune system temporarily.

This is why it is recommended that anyone with a below

average reading repeat the test four to six weeks later. Then a comparison can be made to monitor the immune system's change over time.

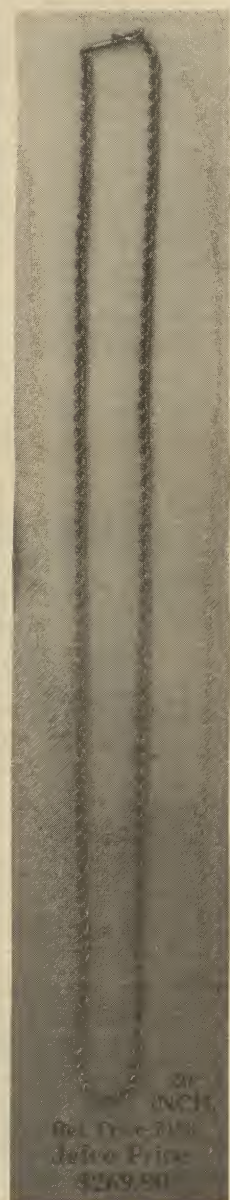
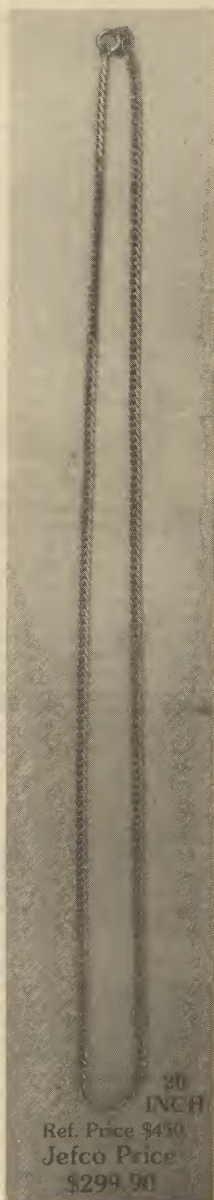
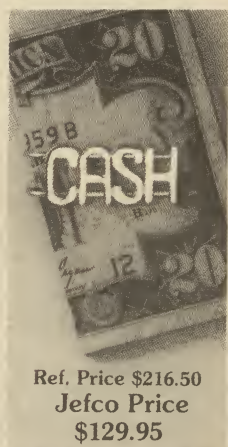
Should the readings remain consistently below average for several months, however, it could be an indication that something more serious may be the cause, and further testing may be advisable. Your doctor will determine whether or not this is the case and which additional tests may be called for. The point here is that one or two below average readings is not a cause for alarm. It does not indicate that the patient is developing AIDS.

Clinical tests have

demonstrated conclusively that delayed cutaneous hypersensitivity (DCH) is one of the most sensitive tests for cell-mediated immune function. This is what Multitest was developed to measure.

Clinical studies conducted by Dr. Evan Hersh of the University of Texas showed that there is a difference in readings between healthy heterosexual controls and the average asymptomatic Gay man, and also showed that there was a measurable decline in DCH between asymptomatic Gay men and those with AIDS-Related Complex.

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

OAKLAND

News Shorts

"BRIEF" OBLIDESCENCE (A Where-Did-I-Leave-My Nose)

Good golly, Miss Molly! It seems that Joe Garza (remember, he IS the current Mr. Gay Alameda County) went all out on St. Patrick's Day, dressing totally in green, save for a scanty g-string of scarlet red.

As is all of our wots, he spent the closing hours of that holiday in the company of some delicious morsel. The dawning of the next day, said morsel called several gasthofs trying to locate Joe—to inform him of the whereabouts of his undergarment, inadvertently left at the scene of the encounter.

It was certainly a nice gesture on the part of the host but when Joe finally received the message, he didn't realize that he was without dessous. He couldn't even remember who he had gone home with!

Hey, I'd never forget old what's-his-name!

BISTRO JOLLIFICATION (A Grease Paint Nose?)

A bite out of the "Big Apple," if you will, basks at Big Mama's in an up-coming "Sunday Afternoon Springtime Cabaret" series, all starting at 3 p.m.

If their preview night (Thursday, March 21) was any indication, Big Mama's may very well have the one-upmanship on some of those cabarets across the Bay.

On April 14 and 28, enjoy Country/Western and Broadway with Ralph Michaels and vocalist-comedian Darlene Popovic. One can expect a Polish-German duet or two. May 12 and 26 feature the energetic and robust Molly Breen along with romantic (but with a sly sense of humor) Mikio Hirata and unabashedly romantic Robert Erickson. All five entertainers will be accompanied by the renowned Jim Followell.

No easy fete, this, and know-

ing the entertainment background of Zephyr Jim, I rest assured that these particular four Sunday afternoons will be the treat instead of the treatment that we all need at that time of the year. If you miss any of these productions, you will have missed a real "class act" in the East Bay.

ROYALTY ON A ROLL (A Nightcapped Nose?)

Alameda County Emperor V, Don, will present an Easter Bonnet "Extravaganza" on Easter Sunday at the Town and Country from 2 to 6 p.m. A \$2 buffet will have all proceeds going to East Bay for Africa. Prizes will be awarded for the best Easter bonnets, of course!

Then on Sunday, May 18, also at the Town and Country, Emperor V, Don, will present the "First East Bay Suck Off Contest!" The extractions will take place at 4 p.m. Even though all details aren't available (Don won't let them be averruncated yet), don't count on the obvious; rather, rely on the conspicuous! Start lubricating your libia now!

BE-GENTLE (A "Who Am I Kidding" Nose)

Just in case you weren't aware (wadda u mean u don care!) most of my Friday and Saturday nights have become obligated to Bob Sandner's piano bar at Revol. Don't ask me how it started, but somehow I earned the part of holding up signs containing the words to the songs that people want to sing along with. (Sorry, Vera, I tried every which way, and it still reads better with a preposition!) Being the shy, wall-flower type that I am, the audience was amused (?) when I started to embellish my part—just a bit.

Many times I have witnessed other performers receiving money from an admiring audience, while the performance was still in progress. You've seen it too—a line of waiting people

eager to deposit dollar bills into the garments of the one in the spotlight.

Well, dear reader, I was well into my routine with Bob, last Friday night—he at the piano and I behind a huge sign—when all of the sudden a hand appeared behind the sign with me, and inserted money in my pocket! I was taken aback—of course only momentarily, the show must go on, don't you know—but managed to compose myself when yet another hand with yet another bill to be reposed on my prson.

Just as I was thinking, "Hey, what fun!", still another hand with an additional donation to be lodged on my self! For one brief, fleeting moment I felt as a STAR; but, alas, the segment to which I was attached was over and the center stage lime light returned to Mr. Sandner.

I remembered this darling little reticule in the window of St. Vincent de Paul's, but my spouse suggested more sensible ventures for the money. I donated it to the Battered Children's Fund/East Bay AIDS Fund at Revol.

NOBODY-ASKED-ME (An "Oh, Please!" Nose)

It's just common sense that when the immovable meets the unalterable, nothing is gained but stripped gears, and much valuable time, frustration, and compatibility goes down the tubes. To be the determined isolationist results in little productive consequences.

If in some small way I can cause a break in the "barrier" by letting myself be roasted, then perhaps something "good" can come from all the stand-offishness that exists. Let that "good" go in any direction that is beneficial, whether it be a continuance or a termination of that which seems to be the "burr under the saddle."

UNVENTURED ADVENTURE (A "Where?" Nose)

In San Leandro—yes, San Leandro—is a new spot for women. It's called "The New Bill's The Eagle," a cocktail lounge at 16024 E. 14th Street. Owner and hostess Rene Dawn Feliciano stresses the fact that men are most certainly welcome, but must adhere to the rule just as the women must. The rule: just behave!

How about that? A place to "freshen up" on the journey between Oakland and Hayward, and visa versa!

Just remember: 30 ml of prevention is worth 0.45 kg of cure! I'm smiling! Love, ■

Nez

Stanford Dance

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS) will be sponsoring a dance on Friday, April 12, beginning at 8:30 p.m., in the Old Firehouse on Santa Theresa Street, near Tresidder Union on the Stanford campus. The dance will feature current hits on video, and refreshments will be available. A \$2.50 donation will be requested at the door, and the proceeds will benefit the mid-peninsula chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. ■

Sex Talk KO's Fruit Punch Radio

Power Goes Off, Complaints Come in After Safe Sex Show

by Charles Linebarger

Around the Bay Area a week ago Wednesday, Gay men and Lesbians settled themselves into their sofas and easy chairs for a quiet evening of radio—Gay radio. Fruit Punch, which plays every Wednesday at 10 p.m. on KPFA (94.1 on FM) is known for its respected programming: shows dealing with Gay Chanuka, Armistead Maupin interviews, talks with disabled Gays, and etcetera.

This Wednesday, Gay porn star Richard Locke woke up his audience with a provocative discussion of sensible sex and ballfucking—no holds barred. And the lights literally went out.

"Cunt, fuck, motherfuck, asshole, bullshit, shit, piss, cocksucker, tit, or any combination thereof are just words we can't use on the radio," said show host Will Shepardson. "But I didn't know that when you are interviewing someone live, as opposed to a taped interview, that you had to reprimand your guest when they say anything from that list of words."

The problems began in Locke's earthy discussion of safe-sex "ballfucking." According to Shepardson, Locke used basically the same material as is appearing in his series of articles on "sensible sex" in the *Bay Area Reporter*. "These were very important things to talk about, but they are pretty explicit," Shepardson said.

"Ballfucking," according to Locke's articles in the *B.A.R.*, is the use of the testicles as a surrogate safe-sex penis. This is done by strapping the testicles up into the approximate shape of a penis by the use of thongs. There is no way to talk about "ballfucking" for any length of time without becoming explicit with terminology—those no-no words again.

The show began at 10 p.m. and *B.A.R.* columnist John Karr was in the sound room with Shepardson and Locke.

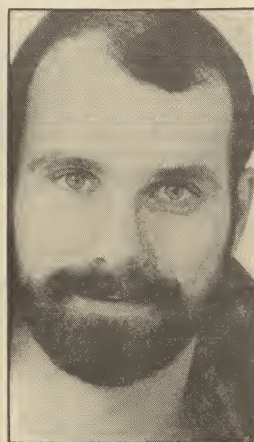
"It was a little eerie," Shepardson recalls. "We sat there talking for 25 minutes before we got our first call-in. I remember he said, 'Hi, my name is Ernest and I'm Gay, and I'm really disgusted.' And then everything went off."

KPFA is broadcast from Berkeley and the station suddenly went off the air at 10:25 p.m. Not only the station, according to station employees, but also half the block was also blacked out. The air waves did not come alive again until 11:01, immediately after Fruit Punch was due to cease programming.

"The power goes off every so often," David Lambie, another Fruit Punch host, said. "It's nothing that special."

Shepardson agrees with Lambie. He doesn't think that KPFA could cut off the power for a half block of Berkeley, including the station, even if it had wanted to.

But the story doesn't end there. The following day 20 calls were made to the station to complain about the language used in Richard Locke's safe-sex talk with Shepardson and Karr.



Will Shepardson (Photo: Rink)

Only one call was made in support of the show.

"There will be a temporary restructuring of Fruit Punch," Philip Muldari, KPFA spokesperson and former member of the Fruit Punch collective, said in a telephone interview. "There has been a problem in judgment on some programs and until the collective is broadened by the inclusion of new members, David Lambie will be executive director of all programming on the show."

Muldari pointed out that the Pacifica Foundation which owns KPFA sued the FCC before the US Supreme Court in the late seventies in protest of the FCC's regulations against the use of explicit language on radio and TV, and lost. "Fruit Punch is now interested in recruiting new members," Muldari added.

Shepardson's next show on Fruit Punch will be on April 17 and will deal with disabled Gays and the new issue of people with AIDS being defined as disabled. Again, KPFA is at 94.1 on the FM dial and Fruit Punch is broadcast every Wednesday evening at 10 p.m. ■



"A MAN'S BAR"

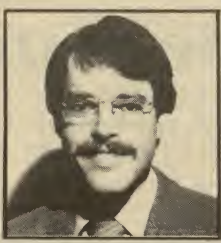
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Aerobics a Go-Go at San Jose's Watergarden. Bathhouse is said to be changing in response to AIDS epidemic.

Watergarden: Open to Health-Minded '80s

by Marv. Shaw

When most of the San Francisco baths were slammed shut last October, many people assumed that similar, open facilities in nearby cities would do a booming business. Though some increases did follow, the experience of one bathhouse differs from that popular supposition. This reporter found that out recently in a visit to San Jose's Watergarden in which owner Sal Accardi was interviewed.

Accardi keeps a careful record of patronage. One wall of his office is given over to a chart that tracks business by amount and date.

With the consciousness of AIDS fully public in the spring of 1983, patronage dropped to 155 per day from a July 1982 peak of 224. In Accardi's estimation, the combination of lack of information and the fear generated by that brought down the attendance. By October 1983, attendance had risen to about 200 per day, where it has stayed. Weekend attendance is higher and Accardi assumes the difference is attributable to out-of-towners coming in. But he suggests that it may be that San Jose men are more content these days to spend weekends in their home city.

But what has the impact of AIDS done to change the operation and the patrons? Accardi emphasizes that The Watergarden has been an unconventional Gay men's bathhouse since its beginning in 1977. Nonsexual recreational facilities have been featured from the start and have been increased, with a diminishing of sex-encouraging factors.

One dramatic example of the conversion was changing a dark orgy room to a brightly lit exercise room. Though no one was using it on my weekday afternoon visit, Accardi insists that it is well used.

The only really dark place was the movie room. The TV room was moderately well lighted. In no public room, nor in any of the individual private rooms whose doors were open, did I see sex of any kind going on. Though I was clothed, my entrances were not announced. But one irony should be noted. The guys in the movies and videotapes were doing the naughty things we have been advised are not safe!

In addition to making the indoor-outdoor center more recreationally and socially oriented, Accardi's management has concentrated on health education. Instructive posters, "safe sex" information cards, and free condoms are stand equipment

throughout. Also, seminars on AIDS, doctors' talks on other health matters, and regular VD testing on Tuesdays (Buddy Night) have been going on for years. Patrons taking the VD tests get a discount.

Accardi has tried to create a lighter, more positive atmosphere. He is not sure that patron behavior is necessarily different, but the encouragement to be more responsible is everywhere. "We like to see patrons really get to know each other," he states, "and no longer treat each other as merely hunks of meat." He feels that consistent effort has created a high awareness of safety and has diminished fears.

Accardi points with pride to another Watergarden phenomenon, long-established rapport with Santa Clara County officialdom, especially the Health Department. Both elected and appointed officials have been invited and have visited. Even the mayor of San Jose has been a guest. This, he believes, makes patrons feel that the bath is a safe environment.

Consequently, when the question is raised about the possible closure of his baths, Accardi replies immediately in the negative. He has seen a minuscule amount of opposition, even before AIDS, but he feels that the only real chance of political pressure for closure would occur if there is a radical increase in the incidence of AIDS locally. To date, only 53 cases have been reported in Santa Clara County, a metropolitan area with 1.2 million people.

Accardi deplores what has happened in San Francisco. He sees the AIDS problem as beginning with a medical problem — and it should have stayed that alone. Instead, it became political and is now legal. He recognizes that some within the Gay community have been sincere in their negative responses, but he emphasizes that early critics such as Larry Littlejohn were wrong from the start.

But it is the actions of Harry Britt that have Accardi most bitterly angry. He calls Britt "evasive, inconsistent, contradictory,

and wholly counterproductive" in his actions as supervisor. Accardi sees Britt's confusing public statements, such as calling the baths "houses of death," as the strongest contributing factor to bringing restrictive government into a situation that should have been left up to the Gay community to solve.

Accardi believes that except for what he calls Britt's "cave-in," Mayor Feinstein would not have proceeded as she has done, and there would not have been the invasions of the "sex police" and the supposedly secret report. Furthermore, he sees Feinstein generally as being more than homophobic, actually "sexophobic," in her politically cynical moves through the crisis.

"Now," Accardi sighs wearily, "the whole matter is being forced through the courts." At The Watergarden there is a sur-

charge of fifty cents with the admission. That money goes into a legal defense fund. To date, \$140,000 has been raised for this fund, \$20,000 of which has come from The Watergarden alone.

Asked about the changes he sees coming down the line for Gay men's bathhouses, he points to The Watergarden. He sees the baths everywhere as becoming more diversified in their activities, involving entertainment, dancing, games—everything that would make them centers of activities beyond sex.

What would be the effect if an AIDS cure or vaccine were discovered, and the S.F. baths were to reopen? Accardi sees a probably short term decrease in business for The Watergarden but a very beneficial long term effect

for baths everywhere, including his.

Accardi sees a real threat in the Atlanta raid. He believes a domino effect could start. "After all," he suggests, "if the baths could be closed in an ultra-liberal town like San Francisco, the probability that the same could happen elsewhere is all too high." In addition, he feels, beyond the baths issue alone, the closures would raise homophobic feelings about Gay life in general.

But Accardi believes the tendency will stop far short of complete repression even if far-right politics takes over. He bases his stand on one important, persistent fact: "You are not going to get Gay men to stop having sex—no matter what!"

HTLV-3 Antibody Test Will Carry Federal Warning

The National Gay Task Force and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund have received assurances from the Food and Drug Administration that the HTLV-3 antibody blood test will be labeled with language intended to minimize civil rights abuses.

The unprecedented, government-required labeling will read: "It is inappropriate to use this test as a screen for AIDS or as a screen for members of groups at increased risk for AIDS in the general population." The labeling will also emphasize that the test is not a diagnostic tool for AIDS.

Commenting on the FDA action, NGTF Executive Director Virginia Apuzzo said, "The labeling agreement is a step forward in our efforts to ensure that the civil rights of the Gay and Lesbian community are protected, and that the antibody test is as safe and effective as possible." NGTF will monitor the

"phasing in" process to make certain the government's promises are kept.

"Much work remains to be done in the areas of confidentiality and education; in addition, we will be looking closely at the evaluation of scientific data. But clearly, we have made some headway in educating the Public Health Service about placing civil rights concerns and medical safety above political expediency."

The assurances were given at a Feb. 28 meeting with FDA Commissioner Frank Young, attended by NGTF Washington Representative Jeff Levi.



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—Bill Edwards, Variety

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FRIDAY 29

• Aldo Bell: cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.

• Aesthet-O-Rama: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. A grab bag of eccentric comedy and variety by a quartet of Frisco's wildest performers.

• Torch Song Trilogy: stage performance, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$20 and \$24. The national touring company of Harvey Fierstein's Tony Award-winning play returns to the Bay Area. Tickets through BASS.

• Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra: dancing, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 9 PM, \$8.

• Fiddle Faddle: stage performance, Blake Street Hawkeyes, 2019 Blake St., Berkeley, 849-3013.

• Corporeal Mime: lecture and demonstration, Studio Eremos, at Project Artaud, 401 Alabama St., at 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, free. William Fisher demonstrates aspects of mime as taught at the Marcel Marceau school in Paris.

• Porc'pine Accident: stage performance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 11 PM, \$3 and \$4. Storyteller John Woodall is joined by performance artist Trom Byckle. Box office at 863-9834.

• Something Else to Do: The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 6-10 PM. An alternative place to relax, have fun and meet people every Friday and Saturday.

• Livin' on Salvation Street: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Terry Cammon Garner's portrait of three Southern women continues its smash run.

• 2 Queens in Search of a Motif: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Tom Ammiano and Doug Holsclaw continue their search in a new series of skits.

• Women's Drop-in Space: conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.

• Acupuncture Free Clinic: for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for information.

• Femprov: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.



Join the clowns at the opening game of the eighth season of the Gay Softball League Sunday at Lang field (Turk and Gough) at noon when Festus squares off against the Rawhide.

THIS



Torch Song Trilogy begins a limited engagement

SATURDAY 30

• East Bay FrontRunners: Lake Merritt run, meet at the columns on the northeast side of the lake, between Grand Ave. and Lakeshore Ave.

• Cris Williamson: concert, Zellerbach Auditorium, U.C. Berkeley, 7:30 PM, \$12 advance, \$13.50 at the door. Celebrate the release of Cris' new album, *Prairie Fire*, along with Teresa Trull, Barbara Higbie and Tret Fure. Tickets at BASS.

• Aesthet-O-Rama: comedy (see Friday for details).

• Gay Comedy Night: with Tom Ammiano, Laurie Bushman, and Linda Moakes, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5.

• Karen Ripley and Lisa Francis: comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., 6-8 PM.

• Porc'pine Accident: stage performance (see Friday for details).

• Fiddle Faddle: stage performance (see Friday for details).

• Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra: dancing (see Friday for details).

• Torch Song Trilogy: stage performance, 2 and 8 PM (see Friday for details).

• Dark Root of a Scream and Soldado Razo: stage performance, El Teatro Campesino, 705 4th St., San Juan Bautista, 8 PM, \$10. Two classics by Luis Valdez open the troupe's 20th Season. For tickets, call (408) 623-2444.

• Livin' on Salvation Street: stage performance (see Friday for details).

• Different Spokes: decide and ride, meet in Golden Gate Park at 1 PM (Fell & Stanyan Sts.) and decide destination.

• Writing Workshop: for women 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 12 noon. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, call 626-7000 for more information.

SUNDAY 31

• San Francisco FrontRunners: Gay Run revisited, one to six miles, begins at 10 AM at the south end of the Polo Field in Golden Gate Park. Call 387-8453 for further information.

• Different Spokes: Sonoma County Blossom bicycle ride, meet at Sebastopol City Hall at 10:30 AM, some steep hills, moderate pace, 35 miles. For information, call 550-8121. Also decide and ride, meet at 10 AM in Golden Gate Park (Stanyan & Fell Sts.), S.F.

• Torch Song Trilogy: stage performance, 2 PM (see Friday for details).

• Resorts for Sex Perverts: slide show, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 4 PM, \$4. A narrated slide show on the history of efforts to close S.F. Gay bars, in the 1940s and 1960s. Benefit for the American Civil Liberties Union, Gay Rights Chapter.

• Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee: meeting, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 5-6 PM, call 861-5404 for details. This meeting will adopt the 1985 budget.

• Vision: dancing, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM. Live reggae music to dance to on El Rio's patio.

WEEK



Engagement at Theatre on the Square Friday

- **Annie Stocking and Friends:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5-8 PM.
- **Sweet Sunday at Zellerbach:** music, Zellerbach Auditorium, U.C. Berkeley, 3 PM, \$12 and \$15, tickets at BASS and the ASUC Box Office. Maya Angelou and Sweet Honey in the Rock perform their acclaimed, socially relevant poetic works a capella.
- **Le Jazz Hot:** cabaret, The Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., 9 & 11 PM, \$1. Join MC's Consuelo del Rio and Tommi Rose every Sunday for a classy show featuring S.F.'s finest female impersonators.
- **Live! on Salvation Street:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **The Vocal Minority in Kidstuff:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 PM, \$7. A revue of songs about children and childhood.
- **All Join Hands:** square dancing, 2140 Market, S.F., 5 to 7 PM. Dance with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Drop-in VD Clinic:** sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.

MONDAY 1

- **Torch Song Trilogy:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Boys at the Brick:** Men's night at Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM cabaret, 9 PM dancing. No foolin' and no cover.
- **Joshua Rich:** music, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Joshua's acclaimed jazz piano returns to the 1177. Reservations at 776-2101.
- **Bunnydrums and True West:** dancing, I Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F., doors open at 9 PM, show at 10:30 PM.
- **April Fool's Day Party:** Metal Monday at Rock on Broadway, 435 Broadway, S.F., 9 PM, \$3.
- **The Dance Company of Middlebury:** dance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. The six member company from Vermont performs jazz and modern dance numbers.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up, 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY 2

- **Torch Song Trilogy:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Ruth Hastings and Company:** cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-8 PM, reservations and information at 788-8379.
- **Lorenzo, Love:** script reading, The Playwrights' Center, Fort Mason, Bldg. B, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2.
- **Gay Freedom Day Marching Band:** practice, every Tuesday, Gresham Hall, Grace Cathedral, S.F., 7:15 PM. Interested? Call the Bandfone, 621-5619.
- **Gay and Lesbian History:** lecture and slide presentation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4.

- **Bingo:** Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., \$6, 7:15 PM. Cash prizes.
- **Playwriting Workshop:** winter session, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 3

- **Aron:** script reading, The Playwrights' Center, Fort Mason, Bldg. B, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. A young girl, her boyfriend, and a transsexual freak who may or may not be human struggle in hell on earth for their existence.
- **Health and Self-Empowerment:** Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley; tonight's workshop deals with healing through imagery. Call 841-6224 for details.
- **Ruth Hastings and Company:** cabaret (see Tuesday for details).
- **Torch Song Trilogy:** stage performance, 2 and 8 PM (see Friday for details).
- **Fourth Annual Benefit Dance for the Lesbian Rights Project:** Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5-10 sliding scale. Sponsored by Hastings Lesbians in Law.
- **Chrissy Hicks and Doug Darrin:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** meeting, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 18th St., and Collingwood, S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** rehearsal, Kassman Piano, 425 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM. For information call 566-6496.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).

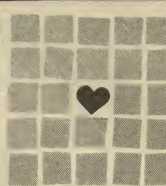
THURSDAY 4

- **In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., at 17th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6 and \$7, call 893-3289 for information.
- **Torch Song Trilogy:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Jae Ross:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Ruth Hastings and Company:** cabaret (see Tuesday for details).
- **Ladies Against Women:** stage performance, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. An evening of consciousness lowering with the Plutonium Players.
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** Foggy City Dancers, Rawhide, 280 7th St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **Writing Workshop:** for men 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for details.
- **All-Male Strip Show:** Renegade, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10 PM, no cover.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **Couples Group II:** ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays. This Week compiled by Ray O'Loughlin.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

MUSIC

Mass Appeal

Diversity of Style, Financial Survival Move Women's Music Into Second Wave

by Jerry DeGracia

I doubt half the readers who made it past the headline's key words, "women's music," read this paragraph, and those who do are apt to deplore such a negative first-person approach. Editorializing is not my idea of a lofty, journalistic approach, much less objective. But writing about music, or any other form of entertainment, is a strictly personal, no matter how you cut the cake.

Women's music, fortunately, is a very subjective matter, and while overall it can be viewed as an idea perfectly suited for objective dissection, its development is the result of an accumulation of personal feelings and the cohesion of those emotions into a social and artistic statement.

After listening to the first promo copies of women's music, Cris Williamson and Meg Christian to be specific, my gut reaction was somewhere along the lines of remaining politically sensitive and dying of boredom.

The boredom had nothing to do with the politics or direction of the music; it stemmed from the fact that the music was too mild for my personal tastes. It lacked a sense of rebellion and anger or the high-energy drive of dance music.

My opinion of traditional women's music (i.e. the acoustic instrumentation, the love-your-sisters lyrical type) hasn't necessarily changed, but women's music in general has expanded to incorporate a multifaceted musical approach.

After a couple of token articles, published out of a sense of fairness and politics, since at that point women's music hadn't endeared itself to me, I left well enough alone and hoped the field would be covered by other writers. But other writers didn't pick up the slack, and despite its uphill battles, women's music is surviving, slowly reaching beyond its inherently limited audience.

Even its tenacity would have garnered minimal media attention, simply because its concept was not originally conducive to mass appeal, if it hadn't been for the development of Second Wave Records, an off-shoot label of Olivia Records, the pivotal factor in the concept of women's music.

In 1984, Second Wave released

Hocus Pocus by Alicia Bridges, a pure disco compilation that went for the Gay dance market as voraciously as Sylvester, and Terminal Hold by Tret Fure, a rock venture that, although lacking a single commercial pick, was nonetheless a totally rock-influenced collection of tunes by a woman artist.

Second Wave has opened up the field of women's music to a much wider audience, and in doing so is changing its concept, perhaps beyond its own intent.

Hocus Pocus, the Alicia Bridges venture, was the first time the Olivia Records organization had set foot in the dance music market, of which 35% is Gay. It was also the first time women artists created a commercial video, and the first time they had ever hit the dance club circuit.

No one is going to be putting Chrissie Hynde or Joan Jett in the women's music bin in the few chain record stores which have such sections, but this emerging commercial viability may allow a few women artists to move into the pop section and onto commercial success.

Is this the final sell-out? And does it mean the end of women's music as it has been known? Olivia Records' president Judy D'Lugacz said she wouldn't call it a sell-out. "It's just the best way to approach the matter; what we have found to work the best is what we're doing."

In retrospect, the matter was the concept of women's music. The idea started 12 years ago to create a cultural movement

geared toward feminists and Lesbians, women in general, to be able to work with each other, making music, free of the male-dominated structure of the recording industry.

Twelve years later, the goal has become one of sustaining the original concept while maintaining financial viability.

As the movement grew, many types of musicians became involved. The concept of women's music, as a definitive style or sound, became dispersed. It was no longer monolithic, D'Lugacz explained.

Unfortunately the evolutionary process in women's music remained a well-kept secret outside its cult following. Even today the term women's music suffers from a scarlet reputation outside the circle of Lesbians and feminists—in other words to the majority of the huge, record buying, pop music audience.

It is admirable that Olivia Records, in its on-going struggle, has developed a distribution network for alternative music which never existed before and now serves as an outlet not only for women's music record labels, but also for other independent labels.

But commercial viability remains a fact of business life and good intentions are not totally lost in wise financial decisions, even if those business decisions include making music that may not necessarily fit the historical definition of women's music.

This does not mean the
(Continued on next page)



Chris Williamson

Cris Williamson, Tret Fure To Perform at Zellerbach

by Jerry DeGracia

The forthcoming Cris Williamson concert celebrating the recent release of her new album, *Prairie Fire*, is slated for March 30 at Zellerbach Auditorium in Berkeley. The show will also feature Second Wave recording artists Tret Fure, Teresa Trull, and Barbara Higbie.

Williamson is one of the pioneers of women's music, and during her musical career has sold almost 500,000 records, a major accomplishment for any recording artist. Her substantial record sales are the result of her artistic skill as well as her social commentary, which has gained the support of an assorted group of fans, from feminists and Lesbians to environmentalists.

While Williamson epitomizes the concept of women's music, Tret Fure, a relative newcomer to the field, adds an expanded view to the movement and to the music.

Tret Fure is representative of the evolutionary link between the original concept of women's music and its increasing move toward a broader-based audience.

While she identifies closely with established women's artists, her experience in the recording industry was through the difficult and sometimes insulting treadmill of the male-dominated LA sound factories. It was the antithesis of the women's music concept.

In defining her concept of women's music, Fure explained that although she was not part of the original conceptualization, the movement offers

women artists a chance to learn and perform, one they would not otherwise have. It also allows them to express their different sensitivities.

By working in the LA recording circuit, Fure said she had to make her own chances, and in doing so took a lot of flak from men. She credits luck and courage for her behind-the-scenes success as a recording engineer, adding that the path she took to be part of the music industry is still sexist and especially hard on women. As a performer, Fure was first signed as a novelty act—a woman.

In response to questions about the general categorization of women artists in spite of the growing diversity of their music, Fure said she did not particularly care to be categorized. Such categorization tended to isolate a group, and there seemed to be a stigma and limitation to such labeling.

Fure has worked with a number of rock musicians throughout her career, an influence noticeable in her music. Her lyrics, on the other hand, have gotten more political. She said the anti-nuclear movement and the problem of the poor and the hungry in the U.S. and around the world are two of her primary concerns.

Expanding on the problems of labeling women artists, Fure expressed a desire to see a broadening of its strict categorization. The labeling, she feels, is caused both from within and without the women's music community.

(Continued on next page)



Tret Fure

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Bright and Bubbly

GEORGE HEYMONT

Music, they say, is a jealous mistress. Why? Because no matter how intensely one might hope to concentrate on other thoughts, once a captivating piece of music gets rooted in the mind there is little to do but succumb to its seductive charms. Long before AIDS transformed the art of sexual sublimation into a fashionable sport, I was getting my rocks off to secret and sublimely sensual sounds. How? Instead of prowling around backroom bars in search of an altruistically anonymous hole, I sought my relief from the thrills of opera's big, thick choruses and their throbbing crescendos. Rather than haunt the sleazier sex palaces of San Francisco, I chose to retreat into the more imaginative palaces of the mind. A close friend claims the dubious distinction between a neurotic and a psychotic is that the neurotic builds castles in the sky while the psychotic *lives* in them. If that be the case, then mea culpa! Mea culpa!

In all truth, music's mysterious powers of healing have seen me through many an emotional slump. These days, with news of one AIDS tragedy after another descending upon my shoulders, any comic relief is a sorely welcome breath of fresh air. Therefore, what better source could I turn to for a spiritual pick-me-up than the bright and bubbly delights of Gioacchino Rossini's music?

A HOT LITTLE PIECE OF ASH

San Francisco's Pocket Opera recently revived Rossini's *La Cenerentola* (Cinderella) in Donald Pippin's delightful English translation. At the performance I attended, Monte Pederson's Don Magnifico, Baker Peoples' Don Ramiro, and Lawrence Venza's Dandini were, one and all, joys to behold. Although she received some excellent support from both Susan McLean and Laurel Rice as the

two ugly sisters, the special delight of this production was mezzo-soprano Vicky Van Dewark. Having long been an admirer of this singer's sterling coloratura technique—the heavenly gism of which a devoted canary fancier's wet dreams are made—a chance to savor her singing once again was most welcome, indeed. I'm happy to report Van Dewark's Cinderella still reigns triumphant as the quintessential ugly duckling radiantly transformed into a bubbling brook of bel canto beauty.

As Pocket Opera has flourished—moving from one theater to another and touring other parts of California—the company's repertoire has grown while its financial base and sense of stage presentation have improved. In recent years the crowds at Pippin's affairs have grown by leaps and bounds—one notices a distinct difference between his audience and that which attends the San Francisco Opera. Alas, evenings spent with Maestro Pippin are not and never have been musical perfection. Although the company's many artistic assets continue to shine, one often wonders if local audiences are getting a fair shake for their money.

It saddens me to report that the Pocket Philharmonic is still producing some inexcusably wretched and execrable sounds. Granted, this ensemble is mostly comprised of aspiring musicians who make a noble attempt at performing the scores placed in front of them on short notice. Too often, however, this rag-tag ensemble forces one to cringe at, rather than luxuriate in its musicmaking. Although Rossini's delicious score may offer audiences a surefire tonic, Pocket Opera's clumsy four-handed piano attempt at performing the overture to *La Cenerentola* proved to be a miserable fiasco. Other orchestral moments found me wincing with embarrassment. The time has come for Donald Pippin to clean up this



'We're off to see the Wizard . . . 'sings the ensemble at the end of Act I of *The Italian Girl in Algiers*.

outrageously shoddy part of his otherwise delightful act.

PUMPING PASTA

Meanwhile, back in the nation's capitol, the Washington Opera mounted a truly fascinating production of Rossini's *L'Italiana in Algeri* in the intimate confines of the 500-seat Terrace Theatre. Updating the plot to sometime around the 1930s, director Leon Major added touring cars, wind-up Victrolas, and a host of hilarious sight gags to keep the action moving. Occasionally, however, Major relied upon too much gimmickry—especially in the Act I finale where he fell into the abysmal trap of having his cast dutifully march all around the stage in time to one of Rossini's greatest ensembles. With the exception of this glaring transgres-

sion, the director succeeded in making *L'Italiana* wonderfully accessible to a modern audience.

Resident designer Zack Brown's crisp, white sets were a joy—as were his humorously stylish Arabian and European costumes. Joseph Rescigno's brisk conducting was right on the mark. The Washington Opera's cast—most noticeably Francois Loup's social-climbing oil-sheik version of Mustafa—was a gem. Sheryl Woods portrayed Elvira as a dizzy first wife to the Bey of Algiers, while George Livings' Lindoro displayed a sterling tenor and fine stage presence. Stephen Dupont's solidly-sung Haly and John Fiorito's fussy Taddeo added to the overall amusement.

Nevertheless, in any performance of *The Italian Girl*, all attention focuses on the even-

ing's Isabella. On this occasion, the role was sung by the feisty, up-and-coming Mimi Lerner. Deliciously haughty, masterfully manipulative, and brimming with lots of sass and spunk, Lerner tackled Rossini's difficult score with stunning aplomb. A most confident singer who looks like she has been cloned from the Marilyn Horne mold of female refrigerators, Lerner possesses a formidable coloratura technique and almost bullish vocal power. Currently serving a stint as an affiliate artist with the Dallas Opera, Lerner is definitely one of the more exciting young American talents to watch. This artist has made great strides since I first heard her in New York City Opera's production of *La Clemenza di Tito* and, with proper coaching and development, I predict the lady will go far.

Mass Appeal

(Continued from previous page)

Olivia/Second Wave organization is going to start releasing heavy metal music. But the concept of Second Wave, commercial viability, is opening the door to an increased variety of musical styles, and its concept is no less principled if it allows Olivia Records to continue as she is, which was D'Lugacz's intentions in creating a second label for the company.

As for women's music *per se*, it is surprising that some artists, who naturally fall into the category, have shied away from such labeling on the grounds that it is

limited by definition and their music was meant for everyone. D'Lugacz's response to this, and she was taken aback to hear of such artists, was "Be kind to it (women's music), it's been good to you."

Although little over a year old, the concept of Second Wave records is the most refreshing idea to come out of the women's music scene since the movement was first conceived. After all, if it wasn't for commercial viability, an audience of millions would have never heard Boy George. Thank Americans for knowing a good drag queen when they see one.

J. DeGracia

Zellerbach

(Continued from previous page)

When asked if aiming for commercial success would validate or destroy the concept of women's music, Fure said she felt it would not destroy it, adding that artists in general want to be popular and survive commercially. She is trying to write more commercial material, noticeable on her 1984 album *Terminal Hold*, released on Second Wave Records.

Unfortunately, she said, there was no single from the album that gained commercial radio airplay. Asked just how far she would go to attain commercial success, she recalled a song recorded early in her career, a

cover version of a Hall and Oates tune, that she wouldn't have done on her own. Her record company at the time encouraged her to do it, and the result was a bit of an embarrassment. But the move got her into the engineering aspect of the business and opened up a whole new field. The song was called "It Doesn't Matter Anymore."

As to the extent she would go today for commercial success, she said she just couldn't be a sex symbol in black leather.

Fure ended the conversation with a specific message to the Gay community: "Keep the love alive. All that matters is compassion. That is what will carry through."

J. DeGracia

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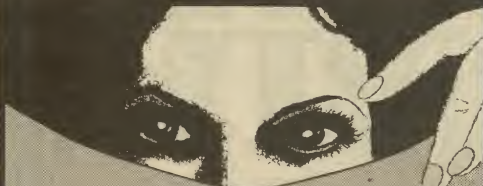
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BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 28, 1985 PAGE 24

CABARET

Tour de Farce

by Steve Warren

If the word "hoot" didn't exist it would have to be coined to describe Carole Cook.

Prior to her opening last weekend at the 1177 Club we had a delightful lunch. When I could stop laughing long enough I threatened to pan her if she repeated the "same old stories" I'd just heard in her act. She snapped back, "Charles Pierce has been doing it for 30 years, so go fuck yourself!"

Well, she doesn't repeat herself much. She probably has enough material to do a series for years without repeating herself, and her delivery is so perfect anything she says sounds funny.

The show is a rapid-fire hour that made my face hurt from laughing. Although Cook describes herself as "a storyteller" rather than "a joke teller like Joan Rivers," most of her stories are made up of one-liners that leave the audience gasping for breath whenever Cook stops to breathe. The subject matter is much like Rivers'—gynecologists, the royal family, and self-deprecation—but not as vicious.

"I don't work dirty. I just look like I should," she tells the audience once they've stopped applauding her dress, a pink and black birthday cake of a gown that she may have worn to her prom. "This is as tailored as I'm going to get this evening," she announces. "This is my butch period."

Cook's last San Francisco appearance was about a decade ago in Oliver Hailey's Father's Day at Marines Memorial Theatre. It was directed by and featured her husband of 21 years, Tom Troup. ("I should have waited for John Garfield," Carole says. "This isn't working out.") It was Hailey who suggested preserving the actress' constant stream of stories for posterity. "He said, 'You've got a book in you,'" she quotes, "and I said, 'That's why I walk funny.'"

Troup taped four or five hours' worth of material and shaped it into a two-hour show, which has been reduced by about half for clubs like the 1177, Studio One in L.A., and New York's On Stage.

Both on and off stage Cook talks about her grandmother, "a mean sonofabitch" who would introduce her to people as "Maudine's fleshy daughter," and once said of a young neighbor who played the piano, "I



Carole Cook (Photo: S. Warren)

think he's a little bit of a sister boy"; her mother, who "was a lot like 'Auntie Mame,' except she didn't have the wealth or the sophistication. That doesn't leave much, does it?"; her brother, "a very tall showgirl"; and her cousin Lucille, who at the age of four looked like "a 30-year-old Lesbian midget."

Carole was born in Abilene, Texas and got "a master's degree in Greek Drama, which I've managed to overcome." She went to New York and "won a contest at a place called #1 Fifth Avenue. I won, but I didn't have an act—or costumes. Fortunately a lot of the guys there—well, they had dresses."

Lucille Ball invited her to Hollywood where she was signed by Warner Brothers and made her film debut as Don Knotts' wife in The Incredible Mr. Limpet, which still gets her recognition today. "To be with a groupie who saw me when they were four years old . . . is not my favorite moment in the world," she says with mock (?) venom.

Another non-favorite of Cook's is Connie Stevens. "Speaking of 40-year-old Lesbian midgets," she interjects when the name comes up, although she'd actually been speaking of 30-year-old Lesbian midgets. They made Palm Springs Weekend together at Warners, and Carole does a hilarious bit about her stage-trained projection coming up against Connie's microphone-pampered whisper.

Possibly her best television role was in the film In the Glitter Palace, where she had a big scene in which her character, a former actress, "told how being a Lesbian had cost me my career." She tells of having worn her hair long for In the Glitter Palace, "to go against the stereotype."

After making Sixteen Candles in Illinois she was called back to that state by Kleiser for a different kind of role in Grandview U.S.A. "He told me I'd play a woman who ran a demolition derby and had a retarded son . . . I said, 'What the fuck's a demolition derby?' He said, 'It's a place where people race cars and wreck them.' I said, 'Oh, like the Hollywood Freeway.'"

Carole created the role of Maggie in the Broadway production of 42nd Street and repeated it in Los Angeles. She would have loved to do it here, she says, but it would have meant signing up for another year with the show and she has other things she wants to do. This forward-looking attitude is what keeps her young, despite "menopause nipping at my ass."

I don't know why we fags love old broads like Carole Cook, but we do. You won't want to miss her this final weekend as she turns the 1177 Club into a suburb of Greater Tuna. Call 771-6061 for reservations, and tell them Connie Stevens sent you. ■

BACK TO BATON

What Becomes A Legend Most?

PHILIP CAMPBELL

So much has been happening in and around Davies Hall lately it's impossible to give full coverage in one article. The focus has been on individuals and, while some have generated more interest than others, no one person should be ignored.

The symphony's new music director, Herbert Blomstedt, gave his first press conference, composer-in-residence John Adams unveiled his latest opus, the beloved Isaac Stern knocked their socks off at a special concert, Jean-Pierre Rampal and Alexandre Logoy gave a joint recital that stupefied as much as it entertained, the orchestra's principal keyboardist, Robin Sutherland, celebrated Bach's 300th birthday with a

superb solo performance, and a local tycoon managed to get a symphony premiere for one of his own compositions while sticking his foot in his mouth.

Blomstedt's meeting with the press merits future analysis; suffice it to say he has some interesting ideas and a frank and positive attitude that augurs well for next season.

Isaac Stern's recent one-nighter, benefitting the musician's pension fund, was an anticipated success, despite some rough treatment of Bach, owing to his tendency toward sour tone. That acidic edge was a boon to his powerful reading of Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, however. The effect was exhilarating.

Stern knows as much about showmanship as he does fiddling. Jean-Pierre Rampal and Alexandre Logoy should take note. Their joint recital left no doubt as to their technical abilities, but the program was too heavily weighted to one period (the Baroque) and there were too many instances of sleep inducing overkill. They are men of obvious taste and skill, but they could use a dose of theatrics in their act.

Robin Sutherland obviously knows the value of brevity. His rendition of Bach's "Goldberg" Variations at Old First Church constituted the entire bill of fare and proved more than satisfying.

(Continued on page 26)

FROM FIFTH POSITION

What a Difference a Cast Makes

KEITH WHITE



Debutante Lost in a Gay bar—Daniel Meja upstages Laurie Cowden in Michael Smuin's Brahms/Haydn Variations.

Though it was certainly unintentional, the San Francisco Ballet's acquisition of Balanchine's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* had a diagnostic effect in performance, forecasting the company's improvement under the imminent new regime. The production is another of the properties being "shared" with the Pacific Northwest Ballet, a cooperative program the two companies began some five years ago. But a full-length ballet that is not the work of either Michael Smuin or Lew Christensen serves to summarize the company's current strengths and weaknesses from a different perspective, distilled, as it were, through the hand of Balanchine and eyes of Francis Russell, Paula Prewitt, and Rosemary Dunleavy, who travelled here to stage the ballet.

The physical production was expensive and looks it, though some of the costumes seem overly plain while others are downright gaudy. But the choreography is consistently interesting and occasionally very beautiful. Balanchine quickly recounts a selection of Shakespeare's plot elements in Act I, then after an intermission we have a symphonic divertissement celebrating the conciliation of the four sets of lovers; Act II is all dancing.

The opening night was very unevenly cast, with some soloist-calibre dancers in roles meant for principals and vice-versa. The role of Oberon, King of the Elves, disclosed Andre Reyes' volatile and sloppy allegro, and the costume is the most unflattering one he will ever wear. As Titania, Queen of the Fairies, Catherine Batcheller is pretty but nervous, her present level of command sufficient only for demi-soloist roles. In the divertissement pas de deux, Evelyn Cisneros danced well enough to make me wish she were better: that she would smooth her *ports de bras*, correct her line, and sharpen her presentation with a broader emotional palette. Her new partner, Dale Baker, appears to be feeling his way through all his new roles, but displays the utmost conscientiousness during his first season with the company. The best "first cast" performance came from Laurie Cowden as the rejected Helena. Cowden is by far the best actress in the company and a good lyric dancer, with a serenely elegant upper body.

Cowden and Nancy Dickson (as Hermia) were paired with Val Caniparoli and Ricardo Bustamante, who gave the season's best portrayals of Demetrius and Lysander.

Partnered by Tom Ruud, Laurie Cowden danced the divertissement pas de deux in the other cast I saw. She graciously endured the endless promenades in arabesque and remained admirably fresh throughout the arduous adagio. Eda Holmes was effective in a totally different interpretation of "Helena" than that given by Cowden (Holmes reminded me of the young Mary Pickford) and Wendy Van Dyck gave a very good performance as "Hermia." Oddly, the roles one might have expected to be the best developed of all—those danced by the same persons in both casts—were disappointing. Julian Montaner's "Puck" was unmagical; Christina Fagundes' "Butterfly" looked frenetic; and Vane Vest's "Cavalier" seemed to groan his way through the rapturous Act I pas de deux. But even with a partner as stolid as Vest, Tracy-Kai Maier danced Titania's role with a joy and beauty that gave meaning to the entire ballet.

Maier is an extremely intelligent dancer in a company in which intelligence is the rarest virtue. She has the expansiveness we look for in a principal dancer, projected with clear-sighted self-respect. As queen of the fairies, Titania's pas de deux with her Cavalier is inspired by one of the noblest musical themes in the ballet (from Mendelssohn's *Athalie* Overture), a dance composition designed to describe Titania's royalty and luxury. When Maier brings to this choreography her innate sense of kinetic proportion and obvious musicality, she seems to embody all that Balanchine could have envisaged.

Program 5, the following week, featured the premieres of two in-house ballets. Kirk Peterson's *Othello* is interesting and craftsmanly, though it relies very heavily on several sure-fire ploys. Like Limon's *The Moor's Pavane*, Peterson's ballet evokes the story instead of telling it literally. The mise-en-scene begins with an impressive solo for Iago (Ricardo Bustamante—you can't go wrong). Utilizing a forceful contemporary score (Carl Ruggles' "Sun-reader"), usually good costume designs from Sandra

Woodall, and a stark Douglas Schmidt stage dressing, Peterson created moments of extreme dramatic tension. What I am unsure of is the quality of the choreography which occurs between those moments, but the danced events are tied together neatly and the work never bores us or appears protracted. As "Othello," Paul Russell finally has a role in which his dramatic strengths and plastic control can both be seen, and Joanna Berman, as Desdemona, made an auspicious debut in a principal role.

Michael Smuin's new ballet, *Brahms-Haydn Variations*, is one of his most traditional works, though, like last year's *Mozart Concerto*, its classicism eventually goes awry. The proscenium curtain swags open just enough to frame Gina Ness as a cameo, then rises completely for her pas de deux with Ricardo Bustamante. Bustamante next appears in a duet with Dale Baker, who then leads a men's trio. This overlapping of a dancer from one variation to the next stopped just short of predictability, and two polite pas de deux followed, one for Catherine Batcheller and Vane Vest, another for Evelyn Cisneros and Dale Baker. These first four variations were all marked by tasteful restraint, and the fifth, a brief allegro for Nancy Dickson with Gina Ness and Catherine Batcheller, brought a breath of fresh air. But variation six, an ensemble of six men, "stars" Daniel Meja, a new S.F.B. dancer whose excessive style proves too great a temptation for Smuin to pass up. Meja is the kind of ballet technician whose emphatic trickery (big jumps, fast multiple pirouettes and high extensions) invariably disrupt a ballet's flow. This is what is meant by the phrase "stopping a show cold." But in this case, the "flow" had been the ballet's principal virtue. Variation seven kept the six men on stage, and brought on Laurie Cowden as a soloist. Smuin decided to try using the ensemble of men in a manner similar to the way women's ensembles act as foils to a female soloist, but it didn't quite work; Cowden looked like a debutante lost in a gay bar. With the eighth variation, a flattering solo for Evelyn Cisneros, and the Andante Finale for the entire cast, the ballet seemed to evaporate like a sudden shower on a warm summer day.

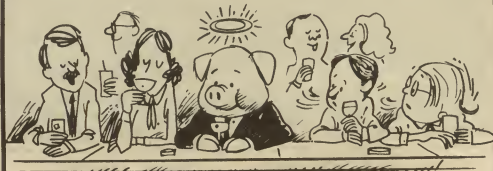
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STAGE

Creation Under Pressure

by Bernard Spunberg

Scattered giggles and guffaws greet Sam Shepard's *Angel City*, a comedy about movie-making madness currently onstage at the Magic Theater. On opening night, most of the audience didn't seem to find the play very funny. Personally, I thought it was a scream.

Shepard's work depicts a young but world weary writer hired as script doctor on a Hollywood movie. When the writer asks about details like the basic plot of the film, he's rebuffed. Sorry, bub. None of your beeswax. The producers despise the writer because, no matter how many millions are invested, the writer is one person who cannot be fired. He may be young, naive, and covered with the dust of the road, but he is also—potentially, at least—a miracle worker.

The producers lock the writer into an office with a beautiful secretary and another creative type who's already been de-

stroyed by Hollywood. The secretary describes his current position at the studio as *Frozen in the Act of Creation*. While philosophizing about the takeover of culture by mass story-telling and film as addiction, the trio works feverishly to come up with a plot. Any plot. Just so long as it's the greatest plot in the world.

Directed by John Lion, the production is elegant. Transitions from cinematic fantasy to stage reality are deftly handled, and the stage pictures are simultaneously beautiful and expressive. Sound, lighting, and costume designs by Marian Wilde, Kurt Landisman, and Margaret Ann Dunn are ominously sleek and streamlined. Andy Stacklin's cool, suggestive set design makes do with oddly amateurish construction and a streaky paint job on a movie mogul's chair, the one prop that needs high detail.

So why were the laughs scattered? *Angel City* is not obscure, but it's not obvious,

either. Playwright Shepard's jokes have their own special rhythm. With the exception of Maureen McVerry's giddy yet wise characterization of the secretary, the opening night performance sometimes felt as though the actors themselves weren't sure where the laughs were. The audience tended to solemnity. I think they were looking too hard for deep meanings. When the hero enters by falling on his face, I think it's fair to assume we're in for slapstick of one kind or another.

Experience with creation under pressure also enhances enjoyment of *Angel City*. You don't have to be a writer to get the jokes. Any kind of pressure will do. The seconds hurtle past, the ideas are lost in the mail, and anxiety makes your skin grow green and scaly. Sheer Delight.

Angel City
Magic Theater; 441-8822



Bill Talen and Terry Lamb do the schoolyard bit while Roger Nieboer watches in Sam Shepard's *Angel City*.

Baton

(Continued from page 24)

Sutherland is an esteemed team player at Davies Hall, and it was a revelation to savor his talent in solo. Tackling the Variations demands more than technical ability; it requires understanding of the score's architecture and the idiomatic feel for translating a work, originally intended for harpsichord, to the piano.

Sutherland earned his standing ovation by playing with a tenderness and bravura that celebrated his own brilliance without eclipsing the genius of the composer.

The really big news last week was the world premiere of composer-in-residence John Adams' "Harmonielehre." New works are the life's blood of the symphony, and any new piece from Adams is an important event.

"Grand Pianola Music," "Harmonium," "Light Over Water," and "Shaker Loops" are entrancing compositions (all recorded) that have slowly but surely extended Adams' reach to the point where he is capable of producing a score as richly varied and ambitious as "Harmonielehre."

My genuine admiration of this exciting writer's music is only equaled by my delight in his success. He seems to be a true original, able to mine the contemporary field of "Minimalism" while respecting the past and forging a uniquely stylish

personal voice.

There are some things in "Harmonielehre" that unsettle me. The middle section can't seem to cohere, containing some of the most gorgeous string writing I've ever heard and some horribly vulgar horn passages.

'Which brings us to a man who is a legend in his own mind.'

The use of descriptive titling in two of the three sections strikes me as unnecessarily cute and pretentious, and the overall orchestration seems absurdly lush. Nevertheless, when "Harmonielehre" pulses out Adams' personal philosophy and skirts some of the intentional homages to Mahler, Wagner, Berg, and Schoenberg (who supplied the work's title), the very air vibrates with beauty and the thrill of the new.

Allowances must be made for first listenings, fevered rehearsals, and the fact that the print on the score was practically wet from the copiers. Adams said this was the most difficult assignment of his career to date in a recent conversation and the results are, undeniably, mixed.

The whole is certainly greater than the sum of its parts, and Adams' unerring feel for drama, incident, and exotically beautiful sound informs every page of "Harmonielehre." His intense

vision and humanistic need to share with an audience disarms the most virulent critics. With some revision and re-orchestration the lyrical terrain of "Harmonielehre" might earn John Adams a degree of immortality.

Which brings us to a man who is a legend in his own mind. Few San Franciscans are unaware that Gordon Getty is one of the richest men in the world. What they might not know is that he fancies himself a composer and, judging from a recent quote of overwhelming assnity, a critic of Elizabethan poetry.

When questioned as to why he decided to bypass a commission to set some of Shakespeare's sonnets to music, Getty said, "The first 125 are sycophantic and faggoty, and the Dark Lady ones are ill-natured."

Unfortunately, despite a backstage scramble, this fatuous observation found its way into the symphony program notes.

All of this would be less than earth shaking if it weren't for the very fact of Getty's wealth. We all know what money can buy—power, position, influence, a chance to get one's own pieces performed, and the opportunity to make hateful, albeit stupid, remarks without fear of censure.

Well, this sycophantic faggot intends to go right on loving the sonnets, and I have a feeling Shakespeare will prevail. Money can buy a lot of things, but it can't buy wisdom. I wonder who will remember Gordon Getty in 400 years?

P. Campbell

The Purple Rose of Cairo

Woody, Woody Allen

The Purple Rose of Cairo is Woody Allen being cerebrally cute again. He comes in with a clever idea, embellishes it with some clever touches, and then cuts the film off, leaving the audience holding the bag.

For '30s depression-era hash-house waitress Mia Farrow, the movies are escape from her beer-bellied good-for-nothing husband, Danny Aiello. But escape becomes reality when one of the characters in the film within the film, The Purple Rose of Cairo, jumps off the screen and asks her to run away with him.

Naturally, the other characters on the New Jersey movie-house screen are a bit upset because they can't go on with the story until safari-hatted Jeff Daniels comes back. The theater patrons want their money back, and the film's producer and real-life actor (also Jeff Daniels) must come to New Jersey to talk the character into jumping back on the screen.

Farrow, no matter who she runs off with—the character or the real actor, who has seemingly fallen in love with her—sees this as a chance on a new life, a life she has, up to now, only daydreamed about. Playing with cliched movie idioms, inside theatrical jokes, and a surreal sense of what is real and what isn't, Allen has the screen actors interplaying with the flesh and blood people off screen.

For a time this works well,

but after a while it becomes a one-joke premise that wears thin. As always, his hero—or in this case heroine—is a mousy, indecisive nebbish being pushed around by everyone. It would have helped if the screen idol was a bit more dashing, but he seems pretty wimpy as played by Daniels, last seen as Debra Winger's husband in Terms of Endearment.

Intermingling with the cerebral Pirandello concept and the mock black and white '30s style film (loaded with more nostalgic charm than the film in which it plays) is the slight handling of life in the depression. The story just quits after a bit and rides on the energy created at the start. There is no continuous spark or thread of wit to keep it going and the sudden, slap-in-the-face ending leaves us feeling let down and slightly ripped off. It is like reading a book and turning the page only to discover there are no more.

(Galaxy)

M. Lasky

Mask

Woeful Countenance, or The Elephant Boy

With the ever-increasing awareness of mortality in the Gay community, many of us need a good, uplifting movie about living with death.

For the fact-based subject of Mask, his anticipated demise is the last thing 15-year-old Ricky Dennis has to worry about. The disease which is killing him—

a career of her own, and he is too possessive of his lucky charm. She leaves him. He starts losing and becomes even more obnoxious. He realized his error, but it is too late.

Not only for him.

We never really care about these people. And with a director who can't decide whether this is an MTV video or a comedy or a drama, we are given nothing to hang on to from start to finish. It is not a baseball movie. It is not a music movie. The performances are scattered and without depth, undermined by a script that was reportedly being rewritten as scenes were being shot.

But I still want to be diplomatic about The Slugger's Wife. Save your money.

(Northpoint)

M. Lasky

The Slugger's Wife

3 Strikes, No Balls, 4 Fouls

I want to be diplomatic about this film directed by Hal (Shampoo) Ashby and written by Neil Simon. Okay, I will. It is one of the biggest eggs ever laid.

With Neil Simon, you expect laughs. They are none. So, okay, this is Simon in an infrequent serious vein. It is seriously dumb. The story ostensibly should have some promise.

Baseball player Michael O'Keefe falls in love with aspiring singer Rebecca DeMornay and then clumsily and obnoxiously woos her into marrying him. She gives him luck and he starts hitting home runs daily. But she wants



Jeff Daniels and Danny Aiello square off in Woody Allen's *The Purple Rose of Cairo*.

craniodiaphyseal dysplasia—has swollen his head to about twice its normal size, and not a day goes by without ugly incidents caused by people's reactions to his mask-like countenance.

In addition, his mother never got over the '60s and Rocky is a conservative '80s kid trying to get her off drugs. Mama hangs out with a motorcycle gang who look like Hell's Angels but act toward Rocky like guardian angels. "Home" is like a South of Market bar.

While I have a built-in resistance to films that are inspiring enough to be shown on Sunday

morning television, Mask had no trouble breaking it down with a combination of excellent writing and acting, and the best direction Peter Bogdanovich has done in more than a decade. I can't imagine anyone not being touched on some level at some point, but reactions will be highly subjective and few people will agree.

As in The Elephant Man, it's hard to judge where the makeup leaves off and the acting begins. Eric Stoltz is no John Hurt, but he does an excellent job in the lead, although they'll probably try to run him as Best Supporting Actor next year. Cher is

marvelous as his mother—tough, tender, radiant, and definitely the "sexy broad" Bogdanovich described her as in a 1966 *Saturday Evening Post* article. Sam Elliott plays her main man, and he's learned a lot about acting since *Lifeguard*. This weatherbeaten piece of hunk city wears a t-shirt advertising "Moustache Rides," and I for one would like to take him up on it.

Don't let the subject matter keep you from seeing Mask. You'll quickly grow accustomed to Rocky's face.

(Regency II)

S. Warren



Dueling Typewriters

Lost in America

New Find

Albert Brooks is an acquired taste I may finally have acquired, after hating *Real Life* enough that I didn't bother to see *Modern Romance*. The critics, even at this paper, are divided on *Lost in America*. I enjoyed it in spite of Michael Lasky's warning and my own prejudice.

Brooks has about half a mil committed to a new house and car on the strength of a promised promotion. When it falls through he packs wife Julie Hagerty into a mammoth mobile home and sets out in search of America, inspired by his favorite movie, *Easy Rider*. One of the best gags is the use of Steppenwolf's "Born to Be Wild" over scenes of the mobile home leaving L.A.

They make it as far as Vegas, where Julie is bitten by the gambling bug and loses their "next egg." In a great scene that's just a little too long, Brooks, the recently retired advertising genius, tries to convince the casino manager it would be a p.r. coup to return their money.

Trying to start a new life in a depressed Arizona town provides a climax of sorts for this sad comedy

Lost in America

Lost, Period

Let's hope Albert Brooks is really *Lost in America* and is never found. Although he has a good subject to lampoon—upwardly mobile yuppies who want to drop out of the rat race—he himself is so obnoxious and his co-star, Julie Hagerty, is so dishrag limp, nothing can save this "comedy" from becoming a masochistic exercise in tedium. Occasional funny moments are there, but they are not enough to sustain any sort of devoted interest as ad man Brooks and wife Hagerty leave their cushy jobs and dependably comfortable lifestyle to discover themselves in a Winnebago trip across the U.S.

The ending is abrupt and sudden, but at 92 minutes is not sudden enough.

(Galaxy)

M. Lasky

about yuppies trying to be hippies and learning they can't go home again. Albert's meeting with Julie's new boss is hilarious.

I wouldn't take a dozen *Lost in Americas* for *The Purple Rose of Cairo*, but the Brooks film probably made me laugh out loud more often.

(Galaxy)

S. Warren

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FITNESS EIGHTIES

Rog Thornton

Leathermen Work Out Too

by Charles Linebarger

You may remember Rog Thornton as the rather husky leatherman who represented the Midwest at the last Mr. Drummer contest in San Francisco. He was the one with the Mr. America arms. His chest wasn't bad either, according to the judges at the Mr. Bare Chest contest at the Arena recently, which he won. Well, Mr. Midwest Drummer wasn't always as big and beautiful as he is today, according to Thornton, and definitely not when he was 16 and got his first set of York barbells.

Thornton is originally from San Juan, Puerto Rico. But his father was a serviceman in the US Army, and by the time he was grown Thornton had seen a lot of North America, from Monterey, California, to Panama, in Central America. It was while he was going to high school in Panama that he first became interested in improving his body. According to Thornton, he used to lift rocks in the jungle to get in shape, and like many other boys, he was collecting a veritable library of muscle magazines.

Thornton, when he got his weight set, would work out alone in his bedroom. But, "when I got big enough I dared to work out in front of the boys at school. I was very skinny, so all those ads about the skinny guy getting sand kicked in his face got me right in the heart."

Muscles were not the only thing Thornton was growing at the time; "I had a strange attraction toward all my buddies, but I felt they all felt the same way. I remember once having sex with one and thinking to myself that's what all friends do."

A US Army scholarship helped him financially when after high school he went to the University of Puerto Rico. He majored in accounting. Thornton has fond memories of San Juan, where he remembers it was possible to have sex with any man, whether he was married or unmarried. When asked about the Latin macho complex, Thornton admitted it exists in Puerto Rico, but insists it's expressed differently there. Surprisingly, he said it was very easy to come out there. He didn't feel he was doing something most people disapproved

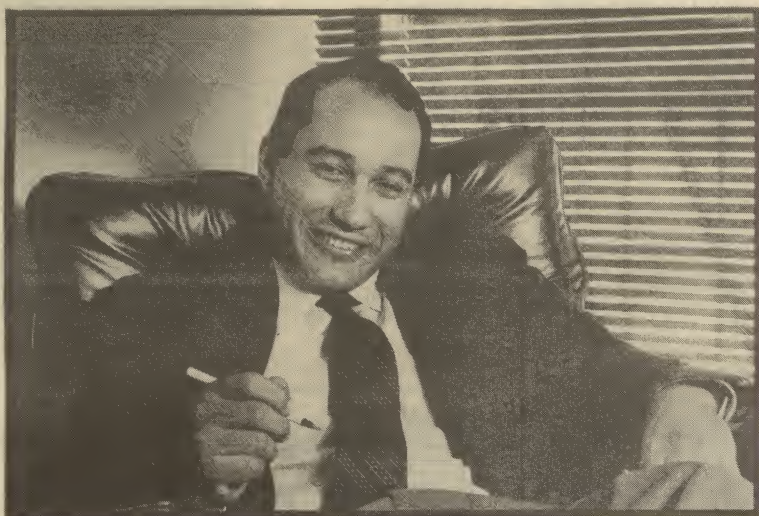
of until he arrived in the U.S.

Fate intervened in the form of a shapely man Thornton followed one day in the old city of San Juan. He waited for the man for three hours outside a bar before meeting him. He turned out to be from Chicago. Eventually, Thornton followed him to Chicago, where they went into business together.

Chicago saw a further advancement in his training program. He had always worked out on a part-time basis, but now he switched to a daily workout schedule. This was two years ago.

"I wanted to see what I could achieve," Thornton said. "Not for a contest, but for myself. When I started this new schedule I weighed about 150 pounds. Today I weigh closer to 190 pounds (of muscle). I work out mostly with free weights, not too frequently with nautilus. They just don't work for me."

Diet is also a part of Thornton's muscle-bulking program. Up until very recently he made sure he ate 3,000 calories a day more than his regular diet consisted of. With his hard training he was still fortunate in having



Thornton searches for executives (Photo: R. Pruzan)

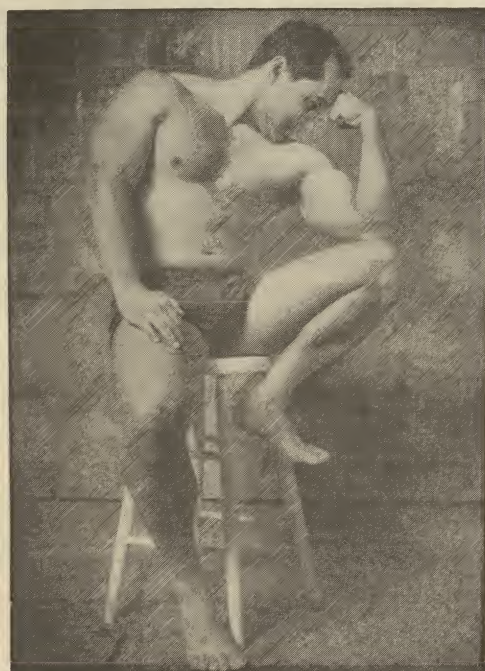
the kind of genetic structure that allowed him to turn those calories into muscles rather than love handles. Part of his diet is getting 150 to 200 grams of protein everyday, spaced throughout the day for better utilization.

Two hundred pounds of muscle is his bodybuilding goal today, "mostly muscle. I don't want to get so cut up that my veins stick out."

Business is as important to Thornton as his bodybuilding or leather leisure-time activities. He's a counselor for an executive search firm. And August will mark his tenth anniversary in this field. Stevens Recruiting Agency, where he works, specializes in IBM specialists.

Talking about his clients, Thornton said, "I like to help them grow into new opportunities. In the computer field, if you stay in one job too long you begin to be left behind by all the fast-paced changes in the field. You have to move on to build up your skill level and salary."

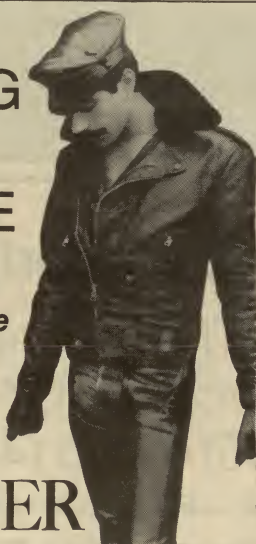
Leather chaps, straps and chains, gym suits and business outfits all suit Rog Thornton, and when he stands on stage his body glows with the gleam of health that an active lifestyle gives. ■



Rog Thornton (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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GSL Opener

by Allen White

The Festus Rowdys take on the Rawhide Cowboys to open the 8th San Francisco Gay Softball League Season this Sunday at Lang Field. The opening game festivities begin at noon at Lang Field, located at Turk and Gough Streets.

The first event of five hours of sports and fun begin with a two-inning celebrity softball game, pitting the sponsors of the 16 teams against many San Francisco personalities. The official opening game starts at 1:30 and will be followed by a free dance party in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building at Van Ness and McAllister.

The personality/sponsor game will match a wide assortment of celebrities against the team sponsors. Among those to be playing will be Bay Area

Reporter columnists Mister Marcus and Wayne Friday. Sheriff Michael Hennessey and head trial attorney for the Public Defender's Office Gordon Armstrong are also on the team. John Kass, whose erotic performance knocked Gay TV off the air, will be joined by San Francisco party person Rita Rocket and Police Commissioner Jo Daly. Also playing on the team is Democratic Party officer Ron Huberman, Men Behind Bars co-producer Jim Cvitanich, and Sentinel Editor Tom Murray. Invited, but yet to be confirmed, are District Attorney Arlo Smith, activist attorney Mary Dunlap, and several stars from the hit show After Dark. The official bat boy for this game will be Jose "The Widow Norton" Sarria.

The official opening game will follow colorful ceremonies with

all 16 teams gathered on the field for the singing of the National Anthem. The music for the presentation will be provided by the Vocal Minority.

Throwing out the first ball to begin the new season will be San Francisco Board of Supervisors President John Molinari. There will be beer, hot dogs, and peanuts brought in from Candlestick Park on sale at the game. Several well-known community leaders will take turns selling the food and drinks.

Following the game will be a free dance party two blocks from Lang Field at 410 Van Ness Avenue. Both Festus and the Rawhide are planning opening day parties to celebrate the participation of their teams in the opening games. These parties will follow the Green Room event. ■

Kick-Off Parties

The Phone Booth (25th St. and S. Van Ness) will host the first kick-off party for the 1985 Gay Softball League season Friday, March 29 at 8 p.m., and it purports to be a typical "operator's" bash. Everybody's favorite sponsor, Linda Pancost, will host all G.S.L. teams, friends, and fans for a fun-filled evening. As most of you know, the Phone Booth has the honor of being the sponsor that has been with the G.S.L. for the longest time—six years. This shindig should be the Booth's best party yet as dynamo Kerry Sykes is at the helm with the ever-present and hard-working Chuck Smith and Darryl not far behind.

The Village will also hold a season kick-off party, Saturday, March 30 at 9 p.m. Hank, Dick, and slugging Bill Martin invite everyone to be there for one of those special Village events. Your host, or hostess, for the evening will be the popular Flo, who promises not only some fine food, but those famous decorations he sometimes favors.

The start of the season, of course, will officially take place Sunday, March 31 at noon on Lang Field (Gough and Turk Sts.) when Bob Shore's Festus Rowdies square off against Ray Chalker's Rawhide Cowboys in what promises to be an exciting contest.

TGTHURSDAYNBL

ROBERT E. JAHNIGEN

Champs: Queen Mary's

Queen Mary's Pub captured the Thursday Night Tavern Guild Bowling League championship last week, and in doing so became the first team in the league's history to win both the Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer seasons. The winners were led by Charlie Jarrette's 502 series, but had to withstand a strong challenge from second-place Bracco Distributor's Roger Spencer's 517 and Mal Garcia's 502. In the battle for third place, Robert Dorn rolled a 500 series to lead the Krewe to a 3-1 victory over the Pig Pins. Kris Trinkle led the Pigs with a 461 series. The White Horse, led by Greg Hulliger's 225 game, took the third game of its series against Ron's Records, and along with it captured fifth place in the league. Ron's fired a respectable 2035 series, but had to sweep the series to capture fifth place. Hulliger's 515 led the Horsemen, while Ray Padua (553) and Ron Aquires (552) paced the hard-hitting Recordmen.

In other league action, Schmidt Insurance's Ron Herzog rolled a 516 series in leading his team to a 3-1 win over EJESP. Jack Hamm had a 483 for the losers. Park Bowl eased by the Four Little Pigs on Ed Barido's 520 series, while Ed Burnett's 473 was high for the FLP team. Febe's concluded its season with a 3-1 win over C.D.C., lead by Don Penniman and Bobby LeRoy. Richard Riley fired a 517 in a losing effort for the C.D.C.-ers. The Fourplay used consistent series from its team members in a 3-1 win over the Four Keeps. Rob Leir was high for the winners, while team captain Glen Terrio led the Four Keeps. The Special ended league play on a successful note, edging Trax 3-1. Darrell Thomas' 487 series led the victors, while Fred McKenzie paced the losers. In the final match, Trax Maniacs took four games from the Floppy Disks. Michael Barnett's 453 led the winners in the sweep.

The Thursday league officers and members invite anyone interested in bowling in the Spring/Summer season to come out April 4 at 8:30 p.m. to the Park Bowl (1855 Haight St.). Bowlers who have no team affiliation are encouraged to come out, as well as teams which are already organized. Early indications are that 20 teams will be participating. Further information can be had by calling Mal Garcia at Park Bowl at 752-2366.

Queen Mary's Pub and its bowling team cordially invite all members of the Thursday

league (and any other bowling persons) to an appreciation buffet and party Tuesday, April 2, at 7 p.m. Queen Mary's is located at 133 Turk St. We look forward to seeing all of our many friends there.

Midseason

Hey, it's the Barry and Billy show! Barry Middleton of Eagle Creek Chaos had to have his arm twisted to enter the March 14 Chaps tournament, but he got off the bar stool and played. And won. The next Thursday at the Cinch, Billy Kazee of Festus Farmhands, still on crutches, took the \$50 first prize. Then at DeLuxe last Saturday, Barry and Billy were the two qualifiers for the '85 8-Ball Championship.

Congratulations also to Luby Pelletier and E.Z., who qualified at the 37-player Park Bowl preliminary. Six more preliminaries will qualify the remaining 12 for the April 27 championship.

MIDSEASON MEETING

At the shortest midseason meeting yet, Cris Lundberg (Festus Farmhands) was nominated for president of the league. Incumbent Secretary Ken Robertson was renominated. Outgoing President Dennis Hall was nominated, along with David Terreo, for non-officer board member. The meeting was sparsely attended and very little business was transacted.

We seem to have reached that mellow state in which the governed lose interest in the governorship—no complaints, no rush to make changes.

LE FLAPPE

In my interview with Colin Bradley (B.A.R. 3/14), his response to my final question seems to have stirred anger among a few league members. Colin has been a major contributor to the league's growth, and also one of its leading critics; his opinions are significant. The final question was, I felt, the most important.

His response to that question dismayed me, and several people apparently feel I was guilty of denigrating Lauren Ward by including it, but I assure you if I asked anybody else the same question during an interview, their complete response would also be included. It was I, after all, who nominated Lauren for her position seven seasons ago, and I think she's one of the most dedicated and hard working individuals the league has ever seen.

The schedule is a brain-teaser and can drive people bats.

We've asked programmers if it could be done on a computer, and yes, it can, but it would be a monument to cost-inefficiency: Each season is unique—the program would be rewritten every six months and then used only once.

Bracco Backs Bowlers

For the third consecutive year, Bracco Distributors, local distributor of Budweiser beer, has provided financial support for the Gay bowling contingent to the International Gay Bowling Organization's annual tournament to be held in Louisville, KY over the Memorial Day weekend.

Were it not for the substantial contribution made by Bracco (\$2,000), many of the 48 bowlers composing the San Francisco contingent simply could not afford the trip, thereby considerably reducing the Gay community's representation in Louisville. Therefore, a dual sense of gratitude is extended to the Bracco Distributing organization.

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- How can we stop spreading the AIDS virus around in our community while we're waiting for a medical solution?
- How can we best adjust to the incredible changes that are taking place in gay values, sexual attitudes and lifestyles?
- How can we best find and promote the positive aspects of this epidemic, while dealing with the tragedy of AIDS?
- What can we do, individually and together, to stay sane and healthy while meeting this incredible challenge?
- Find out from other gay men how they are coping with the AIDS epidemic.
- Say what you need to say about AIDS prevention.
- Learn from one another.
- Contribute by helping the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and our community face the greatest challenge we have ever encountered.

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WRONG SEX.
IT'S CONCERNED WITH
SUPPORT AND SURVIVAL.

THE ONLY PRICE FOR
ADMISSION IS CONCERN.

- Beginning February 15 and continuing through May 15, 1985, a total of 1,000 gay and bisexual men will meet in small groups of 10-12.
- The Stop AIDS Project groups will be held in the homes of volunteer hosts throughout the City, and will take up one evening of your time.
- Space is limited. Call now for a reservation—and tell your friends. This is an opportunity for you to contribute just by being there. And to help put an end to this monstrous disease.

CALL TODAY.
IT'S IMPORTANT. IT'S FREE.

The STOP AIDS PROJECT Office
690 Market Street, Suite 820
San Francisco, Calif.

392-0368

Between 10 AM & 7 PM/Monday through Friday Only.
Information • Reservations • Volunteer Hosts
WE CAN STOP AIDS.

Hot Winter Season

During the excitement of the intense competition this past '84/'85 Winter Season, some very rare individual and team achievements were realized in all three Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues. For instance, the Ethel Mertz Memorial of the TGMBL did something that no other league, straight or Gay, has done at Park Bowl in the past few seasons. They bowled three series of the same 628 total. There is an ABC individual award for this feat, but, regrettably, there is no team award. Nevertheless, a hearty congratulations is extended to the EMM for its team effort.

Not to be outdone, TGWBL members also set a few league records. Rob Mallin of the Pilsner Potlickers won both the 200+ and 600+ certificates on the very first evening of winter season bowling. Steven Sams (144 average, bowled 244) of the Pendulum team, and Adrian Stenson (177 average, bowled 278) of Play With It, Ltd. became the only two TGWBL bowlers to join the ABC Century Club this past season. Adrian also reaped the one-and-only seasonal 10,000 pin certificate. Sams and Jerry De Young, both

of the Pendulum, won the HHG and HHS awards, respectively. And as a final hurrah, Tandy Belew of the enviable Cafe San Marcos team garnered the Most Improved Bowler honors with his 30-pin improvement (135 to 165). Congrats to all of you—your records serve as a beacon of inspiration in a chaotic sea of competition.

And last, but by no means least, the TGTBL has proven in its first few seasons to be a very impressive addition to the Tavern Guild Bowling League roster. To exemplify the intensity of the competition that takes place in this sensational league, Queen Mary's Pub, lead by the very able Charley Jarrett, has confronted such formidable adversaries as Bracco Distributing, The Krewes, and the Pig Pins, yet has still managed to retain stewardship of the magnificent TGTBL trophy for the third consecutive season. This is no small deed, and deserves a special accolade.

Before presenting the 200+ bowlers of 3/20, let me extend a sincere well-done to all Tavern Guild Leagues teams, especially Park Bowl which, due to a tie on the final night, had to play a

one-game roll-off with the Pilsner Potlickers for second place. What an exciting finish!

Rob Mallin (653 srs.) 242 236
Hank Givan (639 srs.) 237 209
Ron McKay (630 srs.) 225 234
Randy Peterson 217
Robert Montaldo 216
Dennis Singleton 216
Adrian Stenson 214
Larry Kramer (617 srs.) 200 213 204

Ray Padua 213
Andres Colon 212
Jack Hiatt 209
Keith Ray 200 203
Ron Squires 202
Tandy Belew 202 200
Lew Watson 201
Skip Christian 201
Greg Hulliger 201
David Hobler 200
Frank Cloutier 200

To close with a positive note, on the last night of bowling Dennis Singleton of the Pilsner Pointless Sisters squeezed under the wire and won the last 200+ pin of the season.

Now, to progress to the forthcoming season and assist some of you in planning your athletic itinerary, here are the starting dates and times of pre-summer season meetings, at which officers will be elected and league



The Play With It, Ltd. bowling team, which won first place in the Wednesday league (Photo: Rink)



Chap's Outlaw's Mike Macri (l.), Cory Ivatsuo, Dennis Hall, Daniel Rawlings, and Jim Regan (Photo: G. Miller)

rules voted upon.

TGThursdayLeague, April 4: meeting 8 p.m., start bowling at 9 p.m. (four person teams).

TGMondayLeague, April 8: meeting 7:30 p.m., start bowling at 8:30 p.m. (five person teams).

TGWednesdayLeague, April

10 (rest same as Monday League).

There are possible openings for individuals, teams, and sponsors. To confirm any of these, please contact Mal Garcia at 752-2366 before opening night.

SCOREBOARD

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES

Team Standings and Personal Achievements
For the Winter 1984/85 Season

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 21 of 21 - as of 3/18/85)		15. Ram's Head Bar 41 47	
League Average: 727		16. Pilsner Slease Balls 38 50	
1. San Francisco Gym	59 25	17. S.F. Eagle 37½ 50½	
2. Capricorn Coffees	54½ 29½	18. Stansbury's Tooth Fairies 37 51	
3. Park Bowl	54 30	19. David Kelsey's Unmentionables 36 52	
4. Welcome Home	54 30	20. S.F. Eagle #2 34½ 53½	
5. Renegade	53 31	21. Animals 31 57	
6. Top Billing	51 33	22. Team #6 (BYE) 14½ 73½	
7. Grand Central Station	50 34		
8. Community Rentals	45 39		
9. Gays of Our Lives	44 40		
10. Transferstiles	44 40		

HIGH SCRATCH GAME	
Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	278
Rob Mallin (P.P.Lkrs)	257
Hank Givan (PWIL)	257
Darlene Schweiss (P-II)	203

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES	
Eric Tuff (C.S.M.)	671
Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	660
Tom Sipple (PWIL/J)	658
Rob Mallin (P.P.Lkrs)	658

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

(Week 21 of 21 - as of 3/7/85)	
League Average: 568	
1. Queen Mary Pub	53 31
2. Bracco Dist.	51½ 32½
3. The Krewes	50 34
4. Pig Pins	49 35
5. White Horse	46½ 37½
6. Ron Records	46 38
7. Fourplay	46 38
8. Schmidt Insurance	44 40
9. Four Keeps	44 40
10. EJESP	40½ 43½
11. Park Bowl	40½ 43½
12. Febes	40½ 43½
13. C.D.C.	39 45
14. The Special	38½ 45½
15. Four Little Pigs	36½ 47½
16. Trax Maniax	35 49
17. Trax	34½ 49½
18. Floppy Disks	17 67

HIGH SCRATCH GAME	
Roger Rigney (R.Rrds)	247
Charlie Jarrett (Q.M.P.)	245
Geno Gales (EJESP)	244

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES	
Roger Rigney (R.Rrds)	630
Edward Burnette (F.L.P.)	614
Eddie Carmick (C.D.C.)	612

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

Hugging Doesn't Cause AIDS

You don't get AIDS by caring about someone with AIDS. AIDS is transmitted through certain types of intimate sexual contact, by sharing of I.V. needles, and by receiving infected blood or blood products. It is not caused by a hug, holding hands, having a good talk, fixing dinner, or going for a drive. So if you know someone with AIDS, don't be afraid to show your care.

The Shanti Project provides volunteer emotional and practical support to people with AIDS and their loved ones. Volunteers needed. Call today for more information.

 **Shanti Project**
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BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR



MR. MARCUS

Let a Dish Be Your Umbrella

Tonight, Thursday, March 28, the SF-Eagle ends its month-long search for SF-Eagle Mr. Leather beginning at 10 p.m. In the last three weeks, dozens of leather men have trooped across the stage to be scrutinized for physique, leather image, and stage presence on the road to being selected to represent the bar at the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago May 27. The world's most prestigious leather title with thousands in prizes goes into its 7th year with contestants from not just regions of the U.S., but throughout the world. Tonight's finals include judging by "heavies" of the leather world, including former Mr. South of Market and Mr. CMC Carnival Mike Merriott, last year's Mr. Eagle Glenn Terrio, former Mr. Leather of SF Jim Cvitanich, and the man who coordinated Int'l Mr. Leather the



Watch out world, I'm about to dish!—Marcus at his new electronic typewriter, a birthday gift from Pat Batt (Mercury Distributing) and Bob Koelzon. (Photo: G. Puzan)

'The standards set by Brig and their chosen judges have been the utmost excellence . . .'

first year it existed in Chicago, Patrick Batt. The current Mr. Drummer, Sonny Cline will round out the distinguished array of judges. All this and the contestants too make it an evening you will not want to miss! See you there?

Tonight's winner will receive roundtrip air fare and hotel accommodations in Chicago, a chance to be selected Intl. Mr. Leather, and \$300 in cash. The judges will utilize the Olympic scoring system to rate the candidates in three categories, with

the most points being given for the candidates' ability to express themselves in regard to their leather lifestyle. Get there early if you want to catch the action.

In other developments, at my deadline, it has not yet been established whether the Brig Bar will hold a contest or even

send a candidate this year. You may recall that the Brig was the first bar to jump on the IML bandwagon, and has since sent two candidates to the Windy City who took the title. The title, Mr. Leather of San Francisco, holds great expectations for the thousands of leathermen assembled in Chicago; it would be tragic indeed and a blow to the prestige of San Francisco's leather image as a community if such a candidate is not present at this year's gathering. For whatever reason the Brig has chosen not to participate this year is, indeed, their own concern; however, in the eyes of leathermen here and everywhere, it is hardly a minor development in the scheme of things and a huge disappointment to those leathermen of San Francisco who have worked out and developed their bodies and minds to conform to the high standards set by the Brig in their selection(s) of candidates for the title in Chicago. The standards set by the Brig and their chosen judges have been of the utmost excellence, and Mr. Leather of San Francisco's presence in Chicago has been one of the highlights of the weekend conclave. I cannot applaud the decision of the Brig to divorce itself from the Chicago leather contest. I am truly disappointed in the decision.

Last Thursday, another group of leathermen took their leather image, physique, and stage personalities to the Eagle for round three of the quest for a candidate. In the end, 23-year old Dean Gibson scored first

(Continued on next page)



Pete Pettino, the winner of last week's Arena Bare Chest Contest (Photo: R. Puzan)

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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

place, followed by 1st runner-up Steve Valladon, both of whom will be competing with previous winners tonight. I do not envy the judges the task they face. Hope to see all of you there.

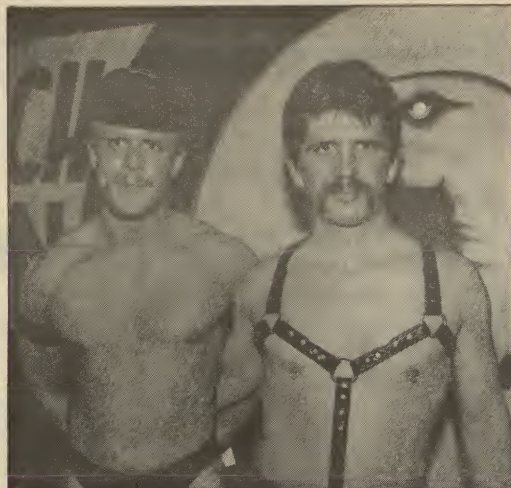
Last Friday, the choicest of chests paraded before the bright lights at the Arena to name Mr. May in the 1986 Calendar. Eight contestants endured the rigors of the interrogation by the MC and the judges and finally, Pete "Butch" Pettine was accorded the honor by judges George Ash (Muscle System), Kerry Bowman (Ambush) and Phil Slatin (Prince de Topaz). Each time out, the contestants get better and better, and it would be an understatement to say that the 1986 calendar will be terrific. In another area, it is no secret that the Arena may be sold at any time. Sources close to the negotiations admit that straight buyers are the primary

parties interested in acquiring this South of Market landmark, and whether it will remain a Gay bar seems to be of major concern to regulars. Time will tell. Stay tuned for the date of the next Bare Chest contest to name Mr. June 1986.

The Spring Social season is off to a good start. Whether April showers can dampen anyone's spirits is immaterial. Kicking off the softball season, the GSL has chosen this Sunday, March 31 as its opener. Before the opening battle between Festus and the Rawhide at Lang Field (Turk and Gough), two innings of celebrity softball will take place which should be a riot; traditional goodies like hot dogs, peanuts and popcorn will be on sale (no beer?) and the line-up includes people you've read about, seen perform, and get elected to various offices; this naturally includes some of the royalty and title holders as well as politicians, writers, and elected officials. It should be a hoot, and hope you can all be

there.

I don't know what SF Hearing Dogs has to do with the Gay community, nonetheless the Dukes and Duchesses are staging a Bunny Contest from 3 to 6 p.m. at the SF-Eagle to raise money for that group. Winners of the Mr. Bunny and Ms. Bunny contests get \$50 in cash, while everyone paying the \$6 door charge gets all the beer they can drink—bring your own carrot juice if you're not into beer... On Saturday, March 30, the CAL Eagles M/C will hold its open meeting at the SF-Eagle as well and will be showing the video tape of the San Andreas M/C 20th Anniversary shenanigans in Los Angeles last month... Likewise, Men Behind Bars II, the video, will be shown at the SF Eagle Thursday, April 4, at which time the Statue of Liberty Hat worn by Kate Smith in the show will be auctioned off to the highest bidder; if you haven't seen the hat yet, it is on display in the window of Cliff's Variety Store on Castro right now with all proceeds going to the SF Band Foundation...



Dean Gibson (L.), who won the third round of the SF Eagle Mr. Leather contest, with runner-up Steve Valladon (Photo: Marcus)



Roy Rodriguez (r.), winner of the second heat of the SF Eagle Mr. Leather contest, with runner-up Peter Pettine (Photo: Rink)

Equestrian Center in Griffith Park on Fri., Sat. and Sun., Mar. 29, 30, and 31. You can get more info by calling (213) 438-8828 between 1800 through 2100 Hrs., Monday through Friday, PST... You might want to ride with the Constantines on its tour of San Pablo Bay on Sat., April 6, leaving from the Watering Hole at 10 a.m. for motorcycle riders and buddy riders only with no fee, no run pin, and no host lunch. Right about now the best corresponding secretaries running neck and neck are from the Constantines and the Cycle Runners, with the GDIs not too far behind... The 15 ASSOCIATION will announce any day now their next Fetish Night (in April) and their next "Scene" (#16) in May, so stay tuned for those dates... If you're planning ahead, mark down Sunday, Sept. 22 for the Folsom Street Fair II, Alive In Black & Blue, with this year's proceeds going to the SF AIDS Fund, among others; likewise, don't forget the Mr. Financial District Contest at Sutter's Mill on Wed., April 20. Also, the Castro Dog Show will take place on June 9, and welcome back home to Jay Johnson, who was getting away from it all for a while in Hawaii and other Pacific outposts...

THE CAMPUS IS DISH-MISSED

Theresa La Bitch of the Men's Room, upon reading about HER bar last week in the B.A.R., said, "But Miss Marcus NEVER writes about US!"—harrumph... A certain "columnist," upon opening a sparkling new Brother electronic typewriter paid for by

various loving friends at a surprise birthday party last Wednesday said: "The better to DISH YOU, my dears"... If you want an application for the International Mr. Leather weekend package (\$50), which assures you a reserved seat (deadline: 15 May), an official T-shirt, and lots of goodies and tickets to several parties, send me a stamped, self-addressed envelope—are you reading this ICE QUEEN?... Did you catch those two HOT club members from the Wasatch Leathermen M/C of Salt Lake City? They didn't look like Mormons to me!... Get well wishes to Kym Whittington of CHAPS, recovering from Dishing, er, Walking Pneumonia with Diesel Dyke Peckerhead and Patrick Toner administering hot chicken soup like two good yenta-types should... And get well to Steve Loignon, recovering at Kaiser, as well as to the Prince de Topaz, recovering from minor surgery after removing a "lump" on his breast (?)... Bubbles Abramson and Mr. Tits Cvitanich are deep in the throes of getting their new musical show, FIASCO, ready for the footlights—this one will WRECK you... Mr. Spunky deserted Albuquerque and is now digging it in Denver, but is due to arrive here any day now, according to his horoscope... The big controversy over putting lights in Chicago's Wrigley Field extends beyond the city and the promoters—the Gays of Chicago are against it as well—ruining a good night cruising and orgy scene is their complaint... If you're in the Big Apple in April you MUST attend the S/M and Fetish Costume Ball Fri., April 19 at the Mineshaft; for more info write to GMSMA, 132 West 24th St., NY 10011... Who was that bar owner/judge snoozing through a South of Market contest last weekend, throwing the others into a panic when it got down to the scoring?... Don't forget the March Poster Man Contest at Chaps Bar this Fri., March 29, and orchids (leather-type of course) to the staff of Chaps for their scrumptious dinner for the patients at Ward 5-B last Thursday along with a showing of Men Behind Bars II—nice going...

That winds it up for this week, boys and girls. Hope to see you around the campus at all the fundraisers, and until we meet on these pages again next week, remember: Without love, intelligence is dangerous; without intelligence, love is not enough. Have fun! 'Tis the the season, you know.

Mister Marcus



The end of the Imperial Guards' Poker Run, at Festus (Photo: Rink)

BEN-HER



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Cocaine for Christ

The Bobby Kent Story

by Jon Sugar

Bobby and I are in the toilet of a fashionable late-night spot. He offers me some cocaine and I do a few lines and then hand it back to Bobby, dropping a wad of it on the toilet seat. Although Bobby and I have known each other professionally for more than nine years and are friends as well, he is bugged with me that I could waste such a precious commodity. He places his nose to the toilet seat and snuffles up the remaining snow. Ah, sweet inspiration. In a minute we're onstage. I couldn't ask for a more spiritual situation.

Bobby Kent began making music at the age of 17, performing piano and organ at the Rock of Ages Tabernacle Pentecostal church in Redwood City where his grandmother was the preacher. Bobby became involved in the strict and often emotionally-charged Pentecostal gospel services, but upon maturation became more inclin-

ed towards Black gospel music.

Bobby's music spans 16 years of experience. 1969 found Bobby as lead singer for the rock group Rushin' River in San Mateo. Back to gospel a year later, he joined the Glide Church in San Francisco. But on Aug. 26, 1978, Kent's future in music appeared uncertain. While trav-

eling to a concert promoter's house he unknowingly walked too close to a burglary in progress. Within seconds he lay on the pavement bleeding from six .38 magnum gunshot wounds. Upon arrival at the hospital, technicians couldn't register a pulse. Emergency life-support systems resumed his breathing. Seven hours of surgery kept him alive—barely. After three days of intensive care his condition remained critical. Then a blessed miracle happened. Bobby was on the road to recovery. After six weeks in the hospital, Bobby skipped out the door. Praise the Gay Creator!

With new strength and dedication, Bobby applied his talent to dance-oriented music with Billy Stracke and Fusion Records solidly behind him.

Kent is a stained glass artist—"I was paid a thousand dollars for my last piece of work"—and a gospel pianist extraordinaire—"Sylvester ran up to me after a show and said 'Your pure church, honey.'" Not only that, he has the best hairdo in the whole Haight/Ashbury district.

Bobby, with the release of Juice, a soulful dance LP, entered phase two of his career. A song off Juice, "Can We Still Be Friends," is good Gay cha-cha music with a great sax solo. "Love Brought Me Back" was Bobby's theme song after the shooting incident in 1978. Bobby lived to make the album, so there must be something to that gospel music.

Bobby started traveling to Europe in 1979.

"I love Germany," he said. "I go at least once a year. I love the taste of young German blonde soil. When I was in Germany, I performed their Gay Day in Berlin. It's called the 'Tanz Vergnuegen,' which translates into 'Dance Enjoyment.' Thou-



sands of people attended."

Back in the '70s, Bobby was a keyboardist in Sylvester's Hot Band.

"Those were the good ole days, right after Sylvester came out of the Cockettes," he said. "Half-naked boys danced onstage at the Palace Theatre. It was crazed." Bobby toured with Mary McCrary and opened for such top acts as Leon Russell.

Bobby is a Gay hippie gospel singer—"Don't call me that, I hate labels."

His first group was called The Gospel Pearls. That group and The Angels of Light did a lot of shows together. Timmy McKenna, one of the Gospel Pearls is now Sylvester's manager.

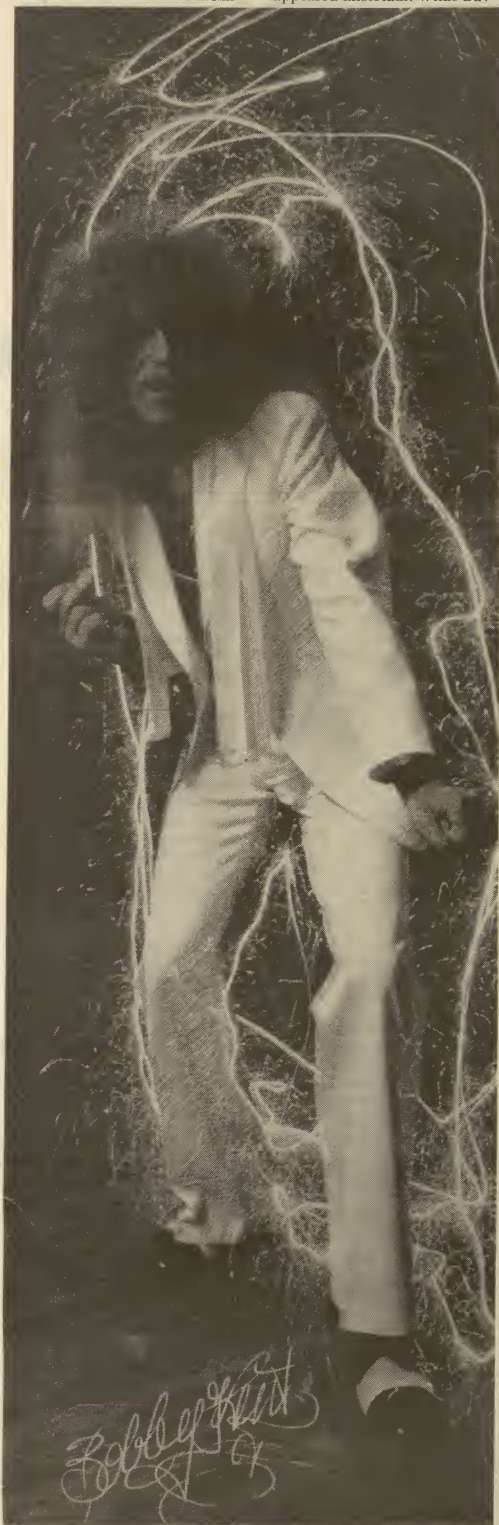
Nobody could get down like Bobby. Out of that era came Bobby's first great gospel album on Olympia Records called

Glide Memorial's Bobby Kent. Bobby did live shows at the Stud and got Elvin Bishop there on stage to jam with him. Bobby's also good friends with Phoebe Snow.

"I've stayed with Mary McCrary when Phoebe would come over and visit," he said. "She'd eat up all of Mary's food and talk my ear off." Bobby knew the Weather Girls when they weren't the Weather Girls.

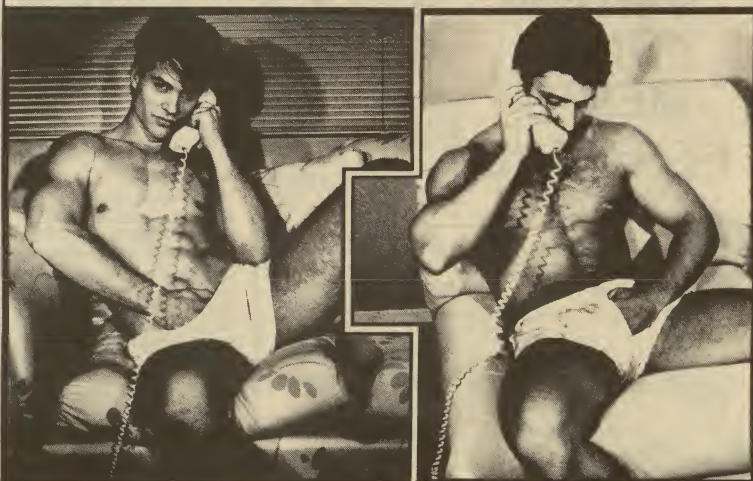
"I first saw Martha Wash when the Polytechnic High School Gospel Choir came to sing at Glide where I played piano," he said. "Isora Rhodes was singing with the San Francisco Inspirational Choir. I got to know them at Gideon's house, a gospel singer and comedian I played for."

At the 1980 San Francisco
(Continued on next page)



Bobby Kent

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Electronic Music Hits Home

by Jon Sugar

It's Sunday afternoon, the day after the coronation ball at the Kabuki Theatre. I always wanted to see if those drag balls were as tacky and tedious as they looked in the paper. They are. I did some serious drinking last night and woke with a 1/8" play in my teeth. My mouth felt like a bird shit in it. I really needed to relax. I looked through my music collection to see what would help. Black Flag and AC/DC were definitely out.

I had met a little guy on Castro Street who pressed a tape in my hands the week before and begged me to play it. He said it would interest me because the composer is Gay, Gay, Gay! Synthesizer/ambient sounds have become quite popular in the Gay community. Trendy Wendies spout *Au Courant!* when it comes to the Eno phase of their record collection. Right alongside Siouxsie and the Banshees and The Cure you'll find Tangerine Dream, Eno's "Music For Airports" and Vangelis.

So, this Sunday morning I decided to pop in my tape deck a copy of *Sirius Lullabye* by William Bent. I was expecting Blandatron drowsiness, but was delightfully, deliciously surprised. *Sirius Lullabye* is soothing, thought provoking, winsome, yet so profoundly simplistic. So I asked The Little Guy how I could get in touch with him and The Little Guy said he'd call and within minutes William Bent was on the phone and invited me over to his house.

There's a lot of stimuli in Bill's house—birds, cats, dogs, a VCR, and his lover Michael. I sat Bill down on the couch for an interview.

Jon Sugar: Your music reminds me of seeing a drag ball

on L.S.D. An elegant ball with happy and sad drag queens all dressed up like dead Cadillacs.

William Bent: It is definitely image music, and I wrote the music expecting people to provide their own pictures. It's sort of like a soundtrack and you provide the movie.

J.S.: How much did this project cost you?

W.B.: About 1,500 American dollars and three years out of my life.

J.S.: Why did you move from New York to San Francisco?

W.B.: Because it's warm and fuzzy out here. And because of the cultural variety. It's what I needed artistically.

Bill Bent was keyboardist in the art-rock band Transceiver out of which a song called "Hyperdrive 2" received airplay on KUSF amidst critical acclaim. After Transceiver Bill decided to go it alone. *Sirius Lullabye* is Bent's first release. There's a lot of electronic music on the market—although the tag "electronic music" has lost any real meaning since bands as diverse as Soft Cell and Tangerine Dream through Conrad Schnitzler and other computer experimentalists all have called their music electronic—and yet there's always room for more if it's good. Thousands of people have already heard *Sirius Lullabye* on Aurora's program Obsidian on KPFA.

The tape includes 90 minutes of music. This is some of the most psychedelic stuff I have ever heard. (Should sell like hotcakes in the Haight.) It's music to suit your gentrified lifestyle from a musician who can actually play his instrument. This is not just pressing keys. It's a real alternative to the nauseating



William Bent

proliferation of Gay folk music, most of which has been a crime against vinyl.

The tape is available at: Sound Choices (Berkeley), Star Magic, Aquarius, Revolver Streetlight, Bay Area Records & Tapes, and The Record Finder. Also by mail order from Bent-sounds Music, 151 Brighton Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94112 at \$7.98 per cassette plus \$1 shipping and handling.

To quote the review in

February's *Music Calendar*:

"William Bent, Boy Wonder, singlehandedly produced, composed, performed, etc. . . this tape in that offhand way so common in this age of monostudios. Using various synthesizers and computers, Bent has created a fit addition to any of your current collection of space music, Eno, etc. Gets extra points from me for the album title—dogs really need more personalized music, even if they are part of a constellation now."

Bobby Kent

(Continued from previous page)

Gay Day Bobby brought out an entire gospel choir on stage with him to perform. He did the same thing at the Castro Street Fair and two years at the Haight Street Fair. Bobby performed at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, opening for Shirley Caesar.

"Shirley Caesar is a great gospel singer and a good Christian," he said. "I recorded one of her songs and didn't even know it was hers. I went back stage and gave her my new album and she told me I recorded one of her songs. I said 'Oh, Shirley, I didn't know.' She said, 'That's all right, child. A good Christian don't sue.' Say Amen somebody!"

When Bobby got out of the hospital in 1979 Billy Stracke, an A&R man at Fusion Records, put Bobby back into the studio to produce the Juice LP at a cost of \$40,000. In *Tup* Magazine voted the album cover the Best of Rock's Beefiest Graphics.

Besides the beefy graphics on the cover, there's some beefy playin' inside, mixed by *Billboard* Magazine's award-winning DJ, Bob Viteritti.

Well, kids, that's the Bobby Kent story. A real sweet guy and a joy to know. Support your local Gay musicians. ■

J. Sugar

BOOK RACK

Take Your Pleasure

The Great American Gay Porno Novel

by Mike Shearer
Gay Sunshine Press, \$8.95.

by Joseph D. Butkie

The pornographer is addicted to purity. So claims Mike Shearer's clever narrator in *The Great American Gay Porno Novel*. The writer of riveting raunch is stubbornly uninterested in multi-faceted, fully developed characters who worry over job responsibilities, dying parents, or inflamed hemorrhoids. Rather, the stick-figure hero with a bigger and juicier than any other cock is the ideal toward which he moves his pen, pencil, or computer terminal cursor. Indeed, less is more for the porno artist.

The Great American Gay Porno Novel serves a dual purpose. It explains how a writer creates good pornography, and offers copious examples of sex scenes on the page—at work. Mark Edwards, the wise and wise-cracking narrator, has tasted the sweetness both of success and gism. At work on novel number 94, he addresses the audience tenderly, sympathetically, almost romantically. "You, dear reader, are my true love and will remain so . . . Sex is always a story for me, always work. But it's a labor of love." Edwards writes to satisfy his reader with a stimulating mental massage.

Edwards shares the secrets of his trade. He lists significant do's and don'ts. "Meat" is a good word; "rod" will do in a pinch. Avoid the cute metaphors that could only excite English majors. I, for one, cannot get a prick out of a cucumber or another vegetable. Nor can I do anything but giggle at erotica that calls cocks 'joy-sticks' or 'tools.' Abstain from 'pecker.'" In addition, he alerts us to the absolute importance of a serious imagination in creating worthwhile porno, providing an especially stimulating example: "Here, try this: You are the

bench nearest the showers in the men's locker room at the state university. You are that eight-foot long board, your lips are its lacquer, and each day you caress a few hundred assholes pressed tightly on you as the men lean over to pull on sweat socks. Balls resting between naked spread thighs stick to you with sweat before showers and cling with the sweet smell of wetness after showers. They will, finally, roll across you on a film of talcum or jock itch powder before deserting you entirely. But you won't be alone long." How's that for a powerful fantasy? Mark Edwards insists on our getting our dollar's worth and our rocks off: "Demand that your pornographer bare himself, dear reader, that he, through his art, penetrate you. You paid your money."

A non-nuclear family of five emerges in this novel: Ed, Amie, Bart, Marco and, of course, chronicler Edwards. To be inspired, Edwards keeps this foursome of hot numbers close by to perform a series of kaleidoscopic

maneuvers. As a result, tops are bottoms and s's m's with a snap of a finger (or whip). Mark records couplings with a scientist's precise eye for detail, and with a Gay man's unquenchable zest for fun and innovation.

One of the most intriguing scenes delineated is a Christmas Eve dinner in this Gay male household. The five men strip for the meal, Mark taking position(s) beneath the food-laden table. Read this sequence near the novel's end and you will be permanently fond of traditional Yuletide fare. Turkey, gravy, yams, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie have never been put to such gastronomic uses before.

With hefty measures of wit and genuine respect for the reader's intelligence, Mike Shearer has written a successful volume of raunch. Read it beside a fresh box of Kleenex. You'll be dipping your hand again and again—right to the end—when a tribe of hairy Huns take their pleasure with man and animal. ■

Labor Issues

The San Francisco Community College District Labor Studies Program is offering a class on Gay and Lesbian Labor Issues to be offered Wednesday evenings, May 1, 8, 15 and 22, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at 450 Church Street, San Francisco. The class will be taught by Patti Roberts, a union representative and attorney.

Course content will include collective bargaining and organizing; domestic partners and fringe benefits; the law: Title 7,

state fair employment; how to use local ordinances; discrimination in the workplace; and coming out at the workplace.

The class is free of charge and open to the public. People interested in attending are encouraged to pre-register by calling or writing Labor Studies Department, San Francisco College District, 33 Gough St., San Francisco, CA 94103, (415) 239-3090. All registration information is confidential. ■

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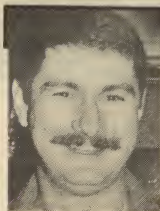
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FRIESE FRAME

Dear Diary

MARK FRIESE

Wow, has it ever been fun-packed, glamorous, and exciting as of late, I hardly know where to begin and I'm sure it will be just as hard to find a place to stop, but I'll try.

To begin with, I actually got answers to all of those questions posed in the last edition of Friese Frame, and came up with these answers that are bound to end the suspense that no doubt has been surrounding them: Michael Buckley said, "Maybe," Reba says, "Absolutely nothing," Jesse was quoted as saying "Never," Perry Watson is still looking for a three-sided coin, and John Schmuck almost had it one Friday evening at the Troc, but had not completed his advanced course in pouncing. Now that I have taken the guesswork out of that, we will press on to other things.

Lips and "friend" are off to Portland after recently saying he "wants to go South." Several people are wondering if his geography is just a little off track. His mysterious friend is none other than Durwood of the Special, and Dolly Dale, of "Happy 38th fame," will join them for a few days during their tour. Watch out, Lucy!

After cocktails at the Endup Sunday—which, by the way, is holding an Easter bonnet contest this Sunday at 7:30 p.m. with \$300 in cash prizes, a \$1 cover charge, and \$1 for schnapps all day with the proceeds going to the S.F. AIDS Foundation—well after the cocktails were swilled down in appropriate fashion, we dined on sumptuous corned beef and cabbage at the Diamond Street chateau and then it was off to Oakland and the merriment of Bench and Bar Sunday Night Fever, which translates to Jockstrap contest. Do read on!

Miss Warwick and Ross were both represented fabulously by Camille and Angela Dee, respectively, who performed and judged with the utmost in taste and style. And yes, there was another first that evening when the winner was announced. He was none other than Stephanie, past Empress of ACIE. Does this mean we can expect Suzy, or perhaps Cha Cha, in future contests? Don't forget Taco and Doug's Easter Delight at the B&B Sunday March 7 starting at 7:30 p.m. with a bonnet contest, raffle, and prizes. The proceeds from this will go to AIDS and ACIE.



Peter King in his Easter Bonnet (Photo: Rink)

Enough of that because there are certain secrets one must keep to oneself, no matter how hard one doesn't try. So it's off to more pressing matters.

Tonight at 8 p.m. the Pendulum will hold a special celebration of a special man's life and devotion to his friends and this community. Peter King, who passed away March 13, will be remembered and honored with a Chinese wake. Peter will certainly be missed by all who knew and loved him.

The news from Puerto Rico is that Michael Khoury, who worked for many years at Sutter's Mill, is not a partner in Souvenir, a Gay bar offering San Juan a "difference." Well, you can be sure the next time I'm in that neighborhood I'll stop by and find out exactly what that difference is! Good luck to you, Michael.

Porn star Chris Noll will be a guest bartender at the Alamo Square Saloon on the 31st of this month from 2 p.m. on. Reportedly you can catch his action behind the bar or on video in their mini-theater. It's true, it's true!

Don't miss the fun this Monday evening at the Kokpit when the newest Queen of the South Shore, Lee-O-Na, holds his in-

vestiture. This is all a camp, and begins promptly at 8 p.m., kinda.

Sunday, March 31 will be the second of the series of AIDS Auctions hosted by Eddie Paulson and Little Mother. This gets underway at 4 p.m., and if you have items you wish to donate either drop them off or call the Mint at 626-4726.

More info for the 31st is that the Grand Dukes and Duchesses will be holding their annual Mr. and Miss Bunny contest on the Patio of the S.F. Eagle. This will also be a beer bust to benefit the S.F. Hearing Dogs, and will get started at 2 p.m. Hope Ron of the Eagle feels better soon, and I hope Stella is soon.

A three-day strategy conference on the Politics of AIDS will begin Friday evening, March 29, at 240 Golden Gate Ave. The Friday night portion of the conference is free, but there is a small registration fee for the rest. For more information call 552-4287.

Seems to me L. Raymond and M. Bowman have been spending quite a lot of time together for just G. Ducal relatives, but the word from them is that they just like playing dress-up with each other. The effect has been stunning thus far. Thank you Ken and Sissy for naming me as Lord of the Wookies, although I have yet to find the definition in my Funk and Wagnell! Molly Brown's, of the Russian River, has almost anything your heart desires on their new menu, so stop by for a bite next time you are in that area.

Will there be an instant replay of the saga of how Mark Abramson was nick-named "Bubbles"? Will Verna Mae replace the battery in his "MY, MY, MY" button? Will the Foghorn get their insurance check? Will the spelling of past Miss Gay Trixi's last name be corrected on his certificate? And will Ron Huberman's friend come back to see me at the New Bell?

Answers of course in the next edition. See ya at the Trocadero White Party, and of course the Lily Street Fair on the 6th and 7th of April, respectively. A little bit early, but Happy Easter to you all.

Compiled by Karl Stewart

SAVAGES

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Bazaar Calendar

Thursday 3/28: Grand Ducal Court Meeting. The Wagons (917 Folsom) 7:30 p.m.

Pool Tourney, Chaps, check-in 7:30 p.m., cash prizes (1st and 2nd place).

Plant Auction, Pilsner Inn, 8 p.m., benefit for Pilsner Penguins (softball team).

Friday 3/29: Strategy Conference on Politics of AIDS, 240 Golden Gate, 7:30 p.m. (three-day conference) opening session open to public, free.

Saturday 3/30: San Andreas MC, pre-BCMC Anniversary cocktail party.

19th Anniversary, Barbary Coaster MC, Febe's, 8:30.

Kickoff Party, The Village, 8 p.m., in honor of the Village Islanders (softball team).

Fantastic Revue, Casa Loma, 9 p.m., \$5 donation to benefit AIDS Hospice, Hostess Empress XV Tessie.

Sunday 3/31: Opening Day of GSL, Lang Field (Gough and Turk), 12:30 p.m., featuring exhibition game: Team sponsors vs. Celebrities.

Aldo Bell in Concert, Buckley's, 9:30 p.m., \$5.

Poster Man Contest, Chaps, 10:30 p.m., winner \$100.

Monday 4/1: Monday/Tuesday Specials, Arena, 2:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., well, beer, wine, and schnapps \$1, hot dogs 50c.

Open Imperial Court Meeting, Febe's, 8 p.m.

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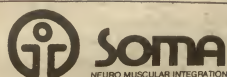
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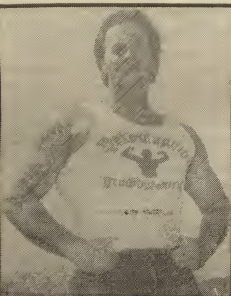
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Paul - 821-2318 E13

LEATHER/LEVIS



Your Fantasy/Your Limits
Blond Bodybuilder—6'1"—180#
of smooth defined muscle into
S/M-Whips-C&B-Posing-
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Masculine caring 40 yr. man.
Handsome, Versatile, Muscular,
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Sexy nude boy! Super
Shape - Looks - Cock.
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Blond College Boy from Spain.
New in S.F., 21, 5'10", 135#,
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Damian Ex Marine 20
Comp B Builder 58" C, 19" A,
29" W, Hung, Out-In. 979-1696
861-2373 Ext. 335, SFO E13

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Ready for action. Attractive,
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Physique Pictorial tool.
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He-man, Bi, horse hung, 6'3",
X-tra big balls 285-4319 E14

6'3", Hairy Hunk, 34, has XXX
thick Manmeat & Bullnuts for Ex-
ec/Prof men 30+ into heavy J/O,
mantak and oral maneuvers.
• John 861-1572 • E15



COMPETITION BB

6'4" 230# 54C 20A 30W
Huge Muscles, V-Back, Wsh
Brd Abs, Hndsm, Personable
Posing, Bodyworship, J/O,
Muscle Appreciation. No Fr,
No Gr. Moderate Rates. In/Out
Visa/MC
FRANK (415) 621-1066

HUNG LIKE HORSE

Unct Eric 408-336-5077 E17

6'4", 195#, hairy X-Army sgt.
Chuck 431-1579 E17

NEW KID IN TOWN

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Blue. Versatile. Call Anytime!
LYLE \$60 550-8357



Vibrant Health VITAMIN CENTERS

SPRING-CYCLE FESTIVAL

Come Celebrate With Us
at Our Market St. Store
on Saturday, March 30th
(1pm-4pm)

CYCLING CONTEST
IN-STORE
WE-RIDE
YOU-GUESS-THE-MILES
Prizes Given
for Closest Estimates

- Free Healthy Snacks!
- Drawings!



Pure Ascorbic Acid
C-Crystals
4,000 Mg Per Teaspoon
\$5⁹⁹
8 oz.

EASY MIXING!
SAVE \$1.00

Pro-Vitamin A
Beta-Carotene
25,000 I.U.
\$2⁹⁹
100 caps
An Anti-Oxidant protects
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Healthy Skin
SAVE \$1.00

Time-Release

C-Supreme
500 mg. RoseHip C
250 mg. Bioflavonoids
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100 tabs
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Pure Crystalline
**FREE-FORM
AMINOS**
50 caps
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Provides More Energy
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SAVE \$1.00

NEW
PRODUCT

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Free-Form Amino Acid
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**Milk & Egg
Protein Mix**
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Mixes easy for High
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SUPER-STRESS
600
Balanced B-Complex
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30 Mg
Canthaxanthin
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100 tabs
Safe
Natural Color Extract
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a tan or bronze
coloration ~

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ZINC
50 Mg
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100 tabs
Essential for
Protein Synthesis
SAVE \$1.00

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Multi-Vitamin &
Mineral Supplement
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